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THURSDAY, JUNE 17TH, 2010

## TOWN COUNCIL TAKES BCBC TO TASK OVER 'RIDICULOUS DEMANDS' 'Sort this out or we will pull the plug on a skateboard park!'

THE skateboard park planned for Porthcawl may go down the pan - as a result of "ridiculous demands" from Bridgend planners.

Porthcawl town council leader David Deere has given the borough council an ultimatum - "sort this out or we pull the plug".

It was more than a year ago when the town council decided to increase its precept so that it could build a skateboard park in the town.

Consultations were held with local youngsters and a skateboard users group was formed.

Several sites put forward by the town council, including Cosy Corner, were rejected by Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) and it was agreed that the skateboard park would go on open land alongside the playground at Heol y Goedwig.

Funding of £80,000 has been obtained - £40,000 from the town council and the rest from



Council leader  
Coun David  
Deere at Heol  
y Goedwig.

the borough and other match funders.

But since then, the scheme has stalled. First of all, the borough council demanded that a crossing be placed on Heol y Goedwig, although the town council has no details of what is needed or how much it will cost.

Then BCBC asked for an acoustic survey - which the town council paid consultants to carry out.

Now, councillors have been told this week that borough planners were

insisting that an acoustic fence and a bund be placed around the skateboard park to reduce any noise nuisance, especially to the house called Shortlands.

Coun David Deere said he had reached the end of the road: "They are putting obstruction after obstruction in our path."

"We have agreed to pay for a crossing - on top of the cost of the skateboard park and we also paid for the acoustic survey."

"It is significant that

the council did not install a crossing for their own playground next door, although lots of children younger than those who will use the skateboard park have to cross to reach it."

Mr Deere said that he would not countenance an acoustic fence as it would be dangerous for the children.

"We would be creating a place where paedophiles could lie in wait unseen by passers by or residents. It could also encourage bullying."

"An open skateboard park which everyone can see is a much safer place for children."

Coun Deere said that enough was enough: "We are drawing a line in the sand. Either the borough drops this ridiculous demand or we pull the plug and local youngsters will not get their skatepark - but if that happens, we will make sure that everyone knows who is to blame."

When the matter was discussed at Porthcawl Town Council, Coun David Newton Williams, who has been in charge of the project, stated that the council's public protection department was making the demand.

"It would cause all sorts of problems and would be conducive to bullying. It's an utter nonsense from a health and safety point of view."

"It would place children out of sight from people on the pavement. Acoustic fences are solid and you would have this six feet high, solid fence placed around some of the park and then another fence by the playground - it's ridiculous."

"I am concerned about the protection of the children inside the fence, who could be approached by strangers out of sight of others."

Coun Deere recalled that the council had decided to provide the skateboard park because people in the town had complained that there

was nothing for the youngsters.

"I also fear that if it was fenced, it would become a haven later at night for teenagers and others to indulge in drinking and drug taking out of sight. It will cause terrific problems."

Shortlands had a cove of trees between it and the park which would baffle the sound.

"I am losing patience with the planning department. They should demonstrate that they are supporting this project," he insisted.

(CONTINUED  
ON PAGE 21)

## Caerau man 'hit 80mph in 30 mph zone'

A CAERAU motorist drove at more than 80mph along 30mph roads in the village when chased by the police, it was stated at Cardiff Crown Court.

The officers lost 26-year-old Andrew Thomas, but he was arrested three days later when he lied and said he had been at home.

Thomas admitted dangerous driving, driving without insurance, and driving while disqualified.

He was jailed for 15 months, disqualified from driving for four years, and ordered to take extended driving tests.

Judge Paul Thomas told him: "You put the police, the occupants of your car, and members of the public at risk of death."

Prosecutor Claire Wilks said that on January 3, police received reports of a Citroen Saxo being driven dangerously in the Caerau area.

They spotted it parked and saw a number of people get in, with Thomas as the driver. Then he accelerated away fast.

The car travelled at high speed along Dyffryn Road and Tonna Road

and when it hit a bump, sparks flew from the vehicle.

Ms Wilks said: "The conditions were absolutely treacherous, with black ice on the roads."

He was said to have previous convictions for aggravated vehicle taking and dangerous driving.

Defence counsel Peter Davies said: "The distance covered was no more than two miles."

He said he was in a stable relationship and his partner was pregnant.

Four months ago, he said, Thomas's brother suddenly died, someone to whom he was close.

"There are positive sides to his character, and to his credit, he has come to terms with drug abuse," said Mr Davies.

REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

## THE BIG FREEZE HOW much did the big freeze earlier this year cost the council?

Jayne Isaac has all the facts and figures. (See page 3). For instance, when the ice melted, there were 4,000 holes in the road which, as any Beatles fan will tell you, is the same as in Blackburn, Lancashire!

## No spare beds at PoW... So ambulances form a queue at hospital

AMBULANCES were stacked up outside the Princess of Wales Hospital in Bridgend on Monday as bed managers desperately tried to admit patients needing treatment.

The GEM understands that ambulance staff were unable to discharge their patients into A and E, which is now the route for all patients seeking admission.

This was because A and E was full with no spare beds, and patients

were queuing up in the department, waiting for beds on the wards.

In desperation, the hospital opened four beds in the Short Stay unit that night, but had to bring in four agency nurses to look after patients, costing up to £600 a shift.

A nurse, who asked not to be named, said that it was the economics of the madhouse.

"They are talking about axing a further 10 beds at the hospital when it cannot cope with the demand in the area. And this is the summer - not the winter, when we have

cases of flu, broken bones from falls on ice and the rest."

Last week, The GEM reported that staff had been told that 10 medical beds were to go, with a further six in the gynaecology ward closed at weekends - meaning a net loss of 16 beds over the weekends.

The ABM University NHS Board, which runs Princess of Wales, refused to confirm or deny this, but said it was reviewing how it provided services.

(CONTINUED  
ON PAGE 21)

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# 'THE BUDGET CUTS MEAN WE MUST ALL DO MORE TO HELP THE POLICE TACKLE CRIME'

**T**HE South Wales Police are the sixth most improved force in Wales and England for crime reduction, with an overall fall of 12 per cent.

Despite this success, however, I am constantly faced with constituents' anxiety about crime, fear of town centres at night, fear of growing drug and alcohol abuse and a perception of young people as threatening.

Building public confidence in the security of their community means widening responsibility beyond the police force, widening engagement with communities, widening understanding of what is happening locally and how significant it is.

Crime should not be something that happens to us citizens and is the responsibility of the police.

South Wales police have already faced a cut of £2.6 million; a cut which will reverberate across partnerships and communities.

The Bridgend Community Safety Partnership includes South Wales Police, Bridgend Council, the Health Trust, probation, Crown Prosecution Service, Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations, South Wales Fire and Rescue, the magistrates court, domestic violence unit, the Children and Young People's Partnership, the youth offending team, Derwin Business Partnership housing associations, Victim Support and Neighbourhood Watch.

All will feel the impact of the cuts in the police budget and no doubt face their own cuts in coming days.

The Community Safety Partnership has been a great success, with an overall reduction of crime of 26 per cent between November to April 2009-10, compared with the same period 12 months earlier.

These are facts – yet public perception lags behind. Recently, I saw police staff stopping and talking to people in Bridgend town centre and asking about their perception of the town and crime, especially by night.

The fact is that in relation to crime that takes place between 10pm and 6am, there has been an overall reduction of 22 per cent.

There have also been falls in criminal damage of 6 per cent, violent crime of 21.5 per cent and 22 per cent in public order offences.

Public perception was one of increased crime, violence and public order offences.

I am not suggesting that Bridgend town centre on

## WESTMINSTER NOTEBOOK

**Bridgend MP MADELEINE MOON is writing an exclusive column from Westminster for The GEM.**



a Friday and Saturday night is without problems – especially after 10pm.

It is an example of how the police are just one part of the partnership.

Licencees, takeaway food outlets, taxi drivers, door security staff, security camera staff combined with improved street lighting, street cleaning and the creation of open spaces, taxi ranks and imposition of licence conditions by Bridgend council are partners in tackling the problem.

The wider community has helped by being a visible presence in the town. The Street Pastor scheme and the triage centre run in Hope chapel with St John's ambulance and the Samaritans Feet on the Street made a great difference.

The street pastors one night dealt with the following problems: not always the anti-social behaviour problems you expect.

An individual sleeping rough had been in Bridgend for about five months, given food and a blanket.

A woman needing help to get home. She had missed the last bus and the team got her home safe.

Lady in her 40s: angry and frightened. She had just arrived by train, unable to find a taxi and was alarmed by the town centre. The team escorted her to a taxi rank and safely on her way.

Man in his mid 30s: asking for assistance for his friend who was in pain. Assistance provided from the St John Ambulance team in Hope and the man taken by ambulance to casualty for investigation and treatment.

Not crime scenes, but there were potential risks for two women, accidents needing medical help and the police where freed up to focus on high risk areas and incidents.

Like many areas, we have a problem with drug and alcohol abuse causing crime, and reducing the

effectiveness of prison as a punishment.

From local agencies working in this field, there is evidence that treatment for drug and alcohol addiction delivers value for money.

The Drug Treatment Outcomes Research Study estimated for every £1 spent there is a £2.5 worth of benefit mostly by cutting crime. Any cuts to budgets for needle exchanges and methadone maintenance results in blood borne viruses, deaths and crime.

Residential schemes for some and longer term support for recovering addicts are costly but pay dividends in transforming peoples lives.

Finally, there is the ever-present fear of young people. Teddy boys were replaced by mods and rockers, hippies, punks, skin heads, Bullingham club members.

The fear has always been there but affluence brings new problems.

Many young people know little about the criminal justice system and the partners within it. Youngsters complain to me of being picked on by the police, despite the fact that young males under the age of 25 are the most likely victims of crime. We have an educational task to perform.

Changing relations between police and young people on the edge of crime is difficult. One local scheme has disengaged youngsters involved in activities designed to challenge them as individuals and as a group.

A climbing wall, high wire, team building games and quad biking. Communication skills and team working abilities are improved and leadership skills developed.

Then there are the Scout and Guide movements. Recently, I visited the 1st Nottage Brownies where insight and concern about young people whose lives were not as fortunate as their own was shown. During BAVO's Volunteers open day in Bridgend, I met Rees Preston, the development officer of Scouts Wales.

With the help and support of the police, Beaver, Cub Scout and Scout packs had been developed in one community where they were credited with helping reduce unsociable behaviour amongst young people by 42 per cent.

South Wales Police have a good record in tackling crime, but with budget cuts it will take us all working together to do more to cut crime.

## LOCAL INFORMATION

**MADELEINE MOON MP** for Bridgend  
Constituency office - 47 Noltan Street, Bridgend.  
Telephone 01656 750002.

**HUW IRRANCA-DAVIES MP** for Ogmore  
Constituency Office 01656 737777

**JANICE GREGORY AM** for Ogmore  
Constituency Office 01656 860034

**CARWYN JONES AM** for Bridgend  
Constituency office 01656 664320

**Bethan Jenkins AM** for South West Wales  
Telephone 01639 643549

**BRIDGEND CAB Citizens' Advice Bureau,**  
Ground Floor, 26 Dunraven Place, Bridgend  
CF31 1JD 01656 654951 – Open: Monday: 10am  
to 2pm – information only; Tuesday to Friday:  
10am to 12.30pm – advice sessions. Tuesday to  
Friday 12.30pm to 1.30pm – information only.  
**MAESTEG CAB Citizens' Advice Bureau**  
01656 734662

**POLICE Bridgend 01656 655555**

**Porthcawl 01656 785411**

**Maesteg 01656 732122**

**CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555111**

(Emergency number 999)

**COASTGUARD 01792 366534**

**GAS (escapes and emergency) 0800 111999**

**ELECTRICITY (power cuts) 0800 0520400**

**WATER SUPPLY (emergency) 0800 0520130**

**FLOOD LINE 0845 9881188**

**HELPLINES**

**Alcohol and drugs:**

**Drinkline 0800 9178282**

**National Drugs Helpline 0800 776600**

**DASH 01656 650686**

**SSAFA – Forces Help** for serving and ex-service

men, women and families in need 01656 785435

**RAF Association Welfare Officer**

**01495 249522/01446 740522**

**SAMARITANS (emotional support) 01656 662333**

**MENTAL DISTRESS**

(Mental Health Matters) 01656 767045

**CHILDLINE 0800 1111**

**NSPCC 0800 800500**

**RSPCA 0300 123 0744**

**WOMEN'S AID 01656 766139**

**Bridgend Carers' Centre 01656 658479**

**Alzheimer's Society (Bridgend) 01656 651490**

**BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH**

**COUNCIL**

**Housing service**

(General enquiries) 01656 643643;

(emergencies out of hours) 01656 643643;

(homelessness) 01656 643643.

**EDUCATION 01656 643643**

**LEISURE AND COMMUNITY**

**SERVICES 01656 642677**

**HIGHWAYS (drains, blockages etc) 01656 643643**

**HIGHWAYS EMERGENCIES**

(outside normal working hours) 07831 143600

**SOCIAL SERVICES**

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**SOCIAL SERVICE EMERGENCIES**

(outside normal working hours) 01443 204010

**HOSPITALS** Princess of Wales Hospital,

Bridgend 01656 752752/668090.

Bridgend and District NHS Trust

01656 752752/668090.

**VOLUNTARY WORK** Bridgend Association of

Voluntary Organisations (BAVO) 01656 810400

**TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS**

Brackla Community Council 01656 767072

Bridgend Town Council 01656 659943

Cefn Cribwr Community Council 01656 741354

Coity Higher Community Council 01656 656358

Cornelly Community Council 07882 044798

Pyle Community Council 0790 460 4049

Coychurch Higher Comm Council 01656 863418

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Garw Valley Community Council 01656 736751

Laleston Community Council 01656 656506

Llangynwyd Lower Comm Council 01656 720086

Llangynwyd Middle Comm Council 01656 738804

Maesteg Town Council 01656 732631

Merthyr Mawr Community Council 01656 670058

Newcastle Higher Comm Council 01446 750663.

Ogmore Valley Community Council 01656 849402

Pencoe Town Council 01656 869031

Porthcawl Town Council 01656 782215

St Brides Minor Comm Council 01656 725031

Ynysawdre Community Council 01656 736751

## Mortgaging a building the public already owns!

**C**UTBACKS and the level of public spending is front page news across the UK.

Profligacy, however, does not seem to have reached as far as Porthcawl Town Council. Over the past seven years, the council has raised more than £1m from Porthcawl taxpayers and increased taxes by 77 per cent!

Not a problem you might say if the money is well spent; however (1) Their hell-bent desire to build a Skate Park in Heol Y Goedwig is fast becoming a farce. What started out as a £45k investment is now looking like £100k.

Many local residents are very concerned about the location, which has all the potential to become a youth behavioural problem area. Much better if it had been much smaller and located in Griffin Park, which is an area specifically designated as a play area and much safer.

(2) They are spending money on building a pedestrian crossing on Newton Nottage Road when any sensible appraisal and public consultation will reveal that the right location for any new crossing is in Heol Y Goedwig, where children cross to the play areas and there are regular complaints from local residents worried about

the speed of traffic.

(3) Now the council is intending to 'buy' the current Town Council office, a semi-detached house in Victoria Avenue.

The current office is (a) out of town; (b) on two floors and needs £000s to make it DDA compliant; and (c) the meeting room only has room for five members of the public to view council meetings.

Why would the council want to spend £200,000 (which they want to take on a mortgage for) of our money buying and modifying the wrong property in the wrong place.

So much better if it consulted with BCBC to sell the Victoria Avenue

Office, with some of the funds then used to lease and fit out one of the empty shops in John Street and move the offices there.

...Easy access to the public and visitors, options to take on BCBC local services all on one floor and back in the heart of town where it once was.

The Victoria Avenue 'office' is already owned by us as BCBC own it!

So the plan is to mortgage Porthcawl taxpayers to buy a building that we already own?

**Michael Clarke, Porthcawl**  
(The writer is a former Lib Dem councillor for Porthcawl).

## TEENAGER ATTACKED IN BRACKLA

**BRIDGEND police** are searching for two male youths aged about 16, after another teenager was assaulted in the street at Brackla.

The attack occurred as the 17-year-old victim was walking home at around 10.10pm on Thursday, May 6, on the footpath linking Wauccill Avenue to Prince's Way.

One youth was described as white, with spots or freckles on his face.

He had short blonde hair, was aged about 16, 5ft 8in tall and of thin build. He was wearing a dark hooded

top and dark sport trousers. He was also riding a red and black coloured mountain bike.

The other white attacker was also about 5ft 8in tall and of a small build. He too was wearing a dark hooded top with hood up, and dark sports or track-suit trousers. He had short dark brown hair.

**Police are appealing for information about this incident.**

Please contact PC Gavin Symes at Bridgend Police station on 101, or anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

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## 4,000 HOLES IN BRIDGEND ROADS...

# How Bridgend coped with its sub-zero month!

**MORE than 100 staff were deployed by Bridgend County Borough Council to cope with the snow and ice during the worst of the winter weather.**

A report on the impact of the severe weather last winter, and how it affected Bridgend's highway network, was given to the communities and environment scrutiny committee by director Louise Fradd.

The report said that over a period of 35 days from December 10 to January 14, the borough suffered continuous severe weather. During this time, temperatures only rose above freezing on one day - Christmas Day.

There were four separate falls of snow, with the period before Christmas from December 20-24 being increasingly difficult, with snow becoming compacted to form extensive areas of ice on roads and pavements. There were also heavy falls on January 12.

Temperatures did not fall so low after mid-January, but the cold period extended until March 15 and precautionary salting of the roads carried on into April, with the last operation taking place on April 7.

by JAYNE ISAAC

The council was well-prepared for the bad weather and had increased its salt stocks by 30 per cent - an extra 1,000 tonnes - above the previous year's level. The total stock was 4,300 tonnes and was sufficient for 90 days heavy salting - well above the minimum level recommended.

Bridgend had the third highest salt reserves of any council in Wales at the start of the winter. The council had also renewed the front-line gritter fleet with state-of-the-art kit, plus five other gritters.

The salting routes were also reviewed and amended with an extra six miles of route being added - 38 per cent of the total network.

During snow or wide-spread ice, the second line gritters and snow ploughs are deployed to side streets, country roads and town centres.

Hand gangs are also sent to clear shopping centres, fire and ambulance stations, hospitals and school approaches.

During the period when snowfall peaked, which was on December 21, January 6, and January 13, the council had out on the road 10 gritter units, more than six JCBs, more than 20 hand gangs - more than

100 staff in total - plus workers and equipment hired from contractors who work for the council. The highway staff in Bridgend dealt with more than 2,000 calls during this period. The council does precautionary salting on main routes to prevent ice forming and it also melts light snow.

However, during heavy snow falls, the salt is quickly diluted and overwhelmed by the falling snow, which means that ploughs have to be deployed to clear the snow away, followed then by salt treatment at double the normal spread rate.

Before Christmas, the council responded to all pleas for help and did not restrict the use of salt. More than 300 tonnes was used in one day at the peak of the operation. Grit bins were replenished during the Christmas break.

However, by January, especially during the heavy snow on January 12-13, the council was subject to restrictions imposed by central government because of a national shortage of salt supplies.

The council restricted its operations to the main salting routes plus difficult or steep side streets and emergency access problems. It also economised by mixing the salt with grit for all non-mainline activity and only grit was supplied to the bins.

The council managed to get through a total of 5,300 tonnes during the winter - including 800 tonnes distributed around the grit bins.

Extra salt had been ordered in mid-December, but the order was blocked when the government set up a national emergency distribution network.

Some councils completely ran out but, although supplies were placed under extreme pressure, Bridgend was one of the last councils to be allocated salt supplies because of the actions taken to manage stocks.

Some extra salt was obtained from other sources, and a further 2,000 tonnes were received up to the end of March.

The council is now proposing to increase the amount of salt in store for next winter from 4,300 tonnes to 5,000 tonnes.

Orders are being placed at the moment but deliveries are slow and only 1,000 tonnes is in stock at the moment.

Buying the extra 4,000 tonnes needed will cost £134,000 - compared to a sum of only £75,000 allocated for this in the budget. The shortfall of money will have to be

met by reducing spending on highway maintenance.

During the winter, the report states that there were concerns about the time taken by the gritters to travel from their base at Waterton to the valley areas, especially during heavy snow.

The issue of storing some of the salt at locations in the valleys will be investigated. One option is to develop 'salt barns' at strategic locations as emergency supplies in the event of severe weather and salt shortages. This is being discussed at an all-Wales level.

The council is also to see if school closures can be avoided by providing grit bins in schools so that playgrounds and other surfaces can be treated.

It has been agreed that manpower and equipment from other council departments like parks, playing fields and cleaning can be diverted to improve the council's response to extreme weather.

The council has 287 grit bins throughout the borough which are used by both residents and council staff. They were used extensively and had to be replenished five times.

Since then, requests for a further 125 bins have been received but there is not enough money to fund them. Fifteen extra bins will be installed and community and town councils have been asked if they will fund the provision of these extra bins at £200 a time.

The weather also left the highway network pitted with potholes. There were 4,000 of them and the cost of repair has been £184,000.

In all, the weather cost the council an extra £484,000, which included buying in extra salt, labour costs, plant hire and the cost of using external contractors. If salt stocks are increased, an extra £58,000 will have to be found.

Some of the cost has been offset by a grant from WAG of £108,800.

## Students gain a place at two top drama schools

**BRIDGEND College musical theatre students Dale Evans and Luke Morrissey are celebrating - after being offered places at two of the UK's most prestigious drama schools.**

Dale has been accepted by Laine Theatre Arts School and Luke has been accepted into Doreen Bird School of Performing Arts. Both are due to start in September this year.

Laine Theatre Arts School was established in 1974 in the Surrey town of Epsom, just half an hour from London's lively West End and is recognised as being one of the leading international training colleges for performing arts.

Many graduates achieve great successes in the music, film and television industries and star in major roles in many West End and touring musicals and stage productions throughout the world.

Throughout his time studying at Bridgend College, Dale has participated in numerous College Productions and on May 28 took to the stage for the final time in the production 'a Chorus Line'.

Luke will be based with the Doreen Bird School, just a short train journey from the centre of the city.

Doreen Bird School was established 60 years ago and is an acknowledged centre of excellence for dance and theatre performance.

During his time studying at Bridgend College, Luke has won multiple dance competitions, competing against the best performers in his age category throughout south Wales and qualified to compete at the National Eisteddfod.

Bridgend College would like to congratulate Dale and Luke, and wish them the best of luck with their careers.

## Pupils' election day had a 'green' theme



**PUPILS at St David's C/W Primary School, Colwynston, celebrated World Environment Day by holding an election day.**

Members of the 'healthy schools group', 'Eco-warriors' and the 'Fairtrade steering group' had been campaigning hard for four weeks, promoting the benefits of their policies and ideas to staff and pupils.

On election day, committee leaders presented their speech in assembly and then in the afternoon, MCs (members of committees) visited different classes to take a question and answer forum.

Each pupil had a vote and the winning committee was 'healthy schools' by just one vote!

During the leader's acceptance speech,

Maya Bell said: "We are so pleased that all our efforts have been rewarded. The other groups were amazing, so we are really surprised we won."

The class teacher and committees coordinator, Leah Croke, and at home."

said: "We work really closely with both groups and look forward to generating ideas and action plans for the forthcoming year and hope that all pupils will get involved in projects in school."

### HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL JUNE 24)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 - 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
17 Thur	10.45	9.4	23.12	9.3
18 Fri	11.42	8.8		
19 Sat	00.05	9.2	12.39	8.7
20 Sun	01.01	8.6	13.32	8.4
21 Mon	02.06	8.5	14.39	8.3
22 Tues	03.13	8.3	15.55	8.3
23 Wed	04.19	8.6	16.58	8.5
24 Thur	05.23	8.6	17.53	8.8

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

## Learning how to behave in Japan

NEWTON PORTHCAWL WI

**THE monthly meeting was held on June 2 and we discussed our visit to Bryngarw Park for a delightful afternoon tea, which was to be followed by a walk around the grounds.**

Sadly, the weather this time did not smile upon us so we stayed inside the house for a chat, and let our ample meal digest.

Our second event (on May 19) was a trip to Stratford-on-Avon and then on to Bourton-on-the-Water. Again, this was a great success, enjoyed by everyone who went.

On June 9, we held our summer tea in Gilgal Church Hall in Woodlands Avenue. This again was a popular event, both for its mouth-watering homemade cakes and as a social gathering.

A fun competition to decorate a handbag was also held and Anita was judged the winner.

We then went on to discuss forthcoming events. On Wednesday, June 23, we will be donning our walking shoes for our summer walk at Margam Park. We will be meeting there at 10am and walking around the grounds. For all those who wish to join us, lunch is being held at 12.30pm in 'the Tap' at Pyle.

On July 23, we will be holding our summer fayre in Trinity Church. We will have a variety of stalls plus a tombola table. The entry is free, but for the light refreshments there will be a nominal charge.

We then welcomed our speaker for the evening, Midon Pritchard, who talked to us about Japanese customs and, to illustrate these, brought with her a wide variety of objects. A very interesting and informative session.

Anyone wishing to find out more or join our institute, should contact Rosemary on 01656 783772 or Judy on 01656 785477.

BETTY METCALFE

## Meeting tested the memories!

**THE Townswomen's Guild of Porthcawl meeting on June 9 really tested members' memories with wonderful reminders of bygone days led by author Joyce James.**

Then they were brought back to modern times with dates for diaries, including walks and talks, bowling, coffee mornings and visits to horticultural shows, so, interesting times await all for the next few months.

The next meeting will be on July 14 in All Saints Church Hall at 2pm. So why not come and join us for a chat and a cup of tea and some good company?

FR



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# LIFEBOAT LAUNCHED FIVE TIMES Non-stop weekend for Porthcawl RNLI!

PHOTOGRAPH by STEVE JONES



ABOVE: The scene in Porthcawl harbour after the lifeboat arrived to save a local boat from sinking. (Photograph by Steve Jones).

IT WAS a non-stop weekend for the volunteers at Porthcawl RNLI, as the lifeboat was launched five times over one of its busiest weekends ever!

The lifeboat was launched three times within a few hours on the Saturday; first to a jet ski, then to a person reported to be in difficulty in Coney Beach, and the third to a boat sinking in Porthcawl harbour.

The RNLI pagers were fired around 10am on Saturday morning with the request for the lifeboat to be launched to the jet ski in difficulty off Rhych Point.

Porthcawl RNLI spokeswoman Aileen Jones said: "The crew made good speed to the casualty vessel, and when they arrived the jet ski was abandoned. The lifeboat did a search of the area and were then informed by Porthcawl Coastguards that the casualty had been brought ashore on a surf ski.

"It was later established that there was only one person on board who had tried to fire his distress flares - but unfortunately they had misfired.

Luckily for him, a person on the shore saw that he was in trouble and rang the Coastguard.

"The casualty was a little shocked and an ambulance was called to check him over. The MoD was contacted to deal with the misfired flares. Porthcawl Coastguards stayed with the flares until the bomb disposal unit arrived from Reading three hours later."

She continued: "The second call was to swimmers in difficulty on Coney Beach. The lifeboat was requested to attend and the swimmers made it ashore safely, where they were assisted by the local Coastguards.

"The final call of the day came later in the evening when it was reported that a boat was sinking in Porthcawl harbour. The lifeboat was launched quickly to assist, this time taking a pump, and the sinking vessel was quickly drained of its water and the source of the leak was established.

"The vessel's owner did suffer a minor injury to his hand, but after some first aid by the lifeboat crew was passed fit, relieved that he and his boat were safe."

Simon Emms was helm of the lifeboat for

the jet ski call and said: "We would always advise people to stay with their vessel when they encounter difficulties, as it is much easier for us to identify how many people are in trouble, and that all have been accounted for. It's also much safer for the casualty themselves to be seen when they are on a craft than in the water."

Phil Missen, the lifeboat operations manager at Porthcawl added: "It was an extremely busy day for our crew. Usually at this time of year we have one or two calls a week, so to have three in one day kept us on our toes."

However, the weekend was not over and the lifeboat was out again on Sunday evening to a boat in distress at the Hugo Bank which is about three miles west of Porthcawl.

The yachtsman put out a Mayday call to Swansea Coastguard, explaining that his rudder had broken and he had no means of steering his 19-foot sailing boat.

The sea conditions in that area were quite rough with a fresh wind blowing. The lifeboat made good speed and reached the casualty vessel within 10 minutes of launching.

The Mumbles Lifeboat was also tasked to assist, but it would take considerably longer to arrive. Joe Missen, the helm of the lifeboat, transferred crew members Chris Missen and Dan Jones on board the yacht to assess the situation, while Ross Purchase manned the radio position.

A line was then attached and a tow was established. Porthcawl lifeboat maintained the tow until the Mumbles lifeboat arrived and the casualty vessel was handed over.

The Mumbles Lifeboat towed the yacht back into Swansea marina where repairs were due to be carried out earlier this week.

As the lifeboat returned to station, another call was received as two surf skis were in difficulty at Newton Point.

By this time, the light was fading and the skis were drifting further out to sea. The lifeboat headed back and managed to locate the two skis.

They were safely put on board the lifeboat and taken back to Ogmores-by-Sea, from where they had launched.

Cefn Cribwr, Bridgend - change of use to general commercial site with a maximum of 39 pitches.

Mr KD Mouchner - garden plot adjacent 3 Ogmores court, Commercial Street, Ogmores Vale, Bridgend - two storey property (outline application).

Mrs J Jones - 10 Hillsboro Place, Porthcawl - kitchen extension. Mr P Stretch - 1 Esplanade Avenue, Porthcawl - proposed garage extension and new glazed link to existing end of terrace house.

Mr CR Davies - Ridgemont, 69 Ystadwau, Pencoed - raise roof height creating first floor accommodation, single storey extension and internal ground floor alterations.

Mr G Morgan - 26 MacDonald Avenue, Pencoed - single storey storm porch, new dormer projections, widen existing drive access, boundary walls/treatments.

## Who wants to build what and where?

Mrs D Thomas - 29 Well Street, Laleston, Bridgend - two storey side extension and front single storey extension.

Mr Dean Norris - 7 Brynmawr, Bettws, Bridgend - proposed hardstand and ramped access for disabled persons. Mr and Mrs Kerton - 55 Briary Way, Brackla, Bridgend - conservatory to rear of property.

Peacocks Stores Ltd - 138-139 Commercial Street, Maesteg - installation of new shopfront and internal alterations.

Mrs S Bywaters-Lewis - Tyn y Caeau Farm, Llangewydd, Bridgend - ground and first floor extension and new thatched roof. Mr C Yildiztekin - 39 Wyndham Street, Bridgend - vary condition of 99/937 for opening hours to be 7am-4am Thursday to Sunday inclusive.

Elaine Thomas - 76 Glenwood Close, Coychurch, Bridgend -

single storey rear extension and new detached garage.

Mr A Jones - 23 Bryntirion Hill, Bridgend - single storey 'infill' extension to side, extend existing conservatory and extend existing porch.

Primesite Properties Pencoed - Old Kings Head site, Coychurch Road, Pencoed - demolition of public house and erection of two class A1 (retail) units.

Mr and Mrs Bowring - 28 Bryncoch Road, Sarn, Bridgend - rear single storey extension with new vehicle access to the front garden.

Local Credit & Finance Limited - land adjacent to 19 Bettws Road, Brynmenyn, Bridgend - demolition existing garage and construct detached dwelling with detachable double garage and enhanced vehicle access.

Bryn Hyfryd Camping - Brynhyfryd Ffordd y Gyfraith,

# Older learners from the Baltic and the Black Sea gather at Bridgend

PRIME CYMRU last week hosted older learners from Gdansk, Valencia, Bratislava, and Giresun, on Turkey's Black Sea coast.

What makes this exchange so unusual is that all the participants are over the age of 50 and that they are all learning English with the help of Welsh volunteers who work as electronic mentors and elec-

tronic penpals.

Beverley Kennett from Bridgend and Lindsey Wells from Porthcawl, are local volunteers who recently visited Valencia, as part of the Discovering the World Anew project and hosted their penpals when they visited Wales.

This innovative project is being undertaken by one of the Prince of Wales' charities, established to encourage older people to become and remain economically active.

Prime's volunteers have been operating as electronic penpals to their transnational partners, improving their IT skills and learning about the culture and heritage of different countries.

These skills increase the participants self confidence and employability. Prime is currently working with 75 penpals.

The project has been funded by the EU under their Grundtvig programme to encourage lifelong learning.

While in Wales, the learners undertook intensive English language tuition in the company of their penpals, Beverley and Lindsey while learning about Wales and the UK.

They had the opportunity to try the best in traditional Welsh (and British) food, including laverbread, cockles, cawl, fish and chips, Welsh beer, roast beef and Yorkshire pudding.

The party was hosted by the Welsh Assembly Government's, Gwenda Thomas AM, who talked to the group of the importance of older people in society.

The Deputy Minister responsible for older people also explained the 10-year strategy for older people that was being implemented.

The Deputy Older Person's Commissioner for Wales talked about the need for older people to continue to live life to the full and never to stop learning and having

adventures.

The European learners visited the Senedd, Caerphilly Castle, the National Museum of Wales, visited a traditional British pub and finished their programme at a banquet at Cardiff Castle.

They were accompanied by their Welsh penpals throughout the whole visit and encouraged to speak only in English, with a little Welsh!

Some of the Turkish visitors had never been to Europe before, never flown or experienced a non-Muslim culture.

Their endurance of a 27-hour journey to take part in the programme showed a real quest for knowledge.

David Pugh, Chief Executive of Prime Cymru said: "They met as distant learners and left as close friends. Participants realised the similarities of their cultures and increased their understanding."

"Those who were sceptical at the start of the programme are now embracing their European citizenship."

Prime encourages lifelong learning. Why should adventures be restricted to the young?

We should all continue to live, love, learn and have adventures all the way through our lives.

Hopefully we can expand this pilot project to enable all older people to engage with their European neighbours.

TM

## Bridgend flies flag to honour armed forces

A SPECIAL flag will again be flown in honour of servicemen and women ahead of this year's Armed Forces Day in Bridgend.

It will be raised outside the Civic Offices in Angel Street, Bridgend, in a formal ceremony at 10.30am on Monday, June 21. It will fly each day up to and including Armed Forces Day itself on Saturday, June 26.

The flag-raising ceremony will be attended by the new Mayor of Bridgend county borough, Coun Colin Teesdale and members of the cabinet.

Representatives of the Bridgend and County Borough Veterans Association, the Royal British Legion, and the Royal Welsh, who hold the Freedom of the county borough, have also been invited to the event.

Coun Mel Nott, Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council, said: "Armed Forces Day is an annual opportunity to show our support for the men and women who make up the armed forces communi-

ty, including our currently serving troops, their families, veterans and cadets.

"I am delighted that Bridgend County Borough Council will be flying this special flag which is such a visible reminder of their contribution."

"As an authority and as a borough we have a particularly strong and proud record of supporting our armed forces, demonstrated only this year by the wonderful homecoming parade of the Welsh Guards."

A celebratory service organised by local veterans will also be held at Park Street, Bridgend at 11.30am on Sunday, June 27, followed by a social event in the United Services Club.

## News from Gwynfa Camera Club

GWYNFA Camera Club was founded 30 years ago by a group of like-minded people with a strong interest in photography, has roots originating at Gwynfa Hall in Church Village.

Members, both amateurs and professionals, come from all walks of life, with a catchment encompassing a wide geographic area.

Gwynfa membership numbers have continued to expand to more than 100, and the club is now the largest camera club in Wales. Meetings are held at Caerlan Hall, Newbridge Road, Llantisant, on Thursday evenings from 7.30pm-9.30pm.

**Photographic Federation**  
In the wider world, the photographic/camera clubs are affiliated to the Welsh Photographic Federation consisting of 49 clubs throughout

Wales, with a membership total of around 1,300 people.

If you are really interested in photography, why not join a club and learn how to improve your skills and learn how to achieve 'your masterpiece' too? Interested readers can find a list of clubs at [www.thewpf.co.uk](http://www.thewpf.co.uk)

**Gwynfa wins**  
Ace of clubs 2010 was recently held at Talbot Green Community Centre when a full house of 100-plus supporters witnessed a 15-way battle of this annual inter-club photographic competition.

Each participating club submitted a bank of 30 prints for critique appraisals. The three judges were: Tony Byram, Barry Mead, Peter R Gennard.

The international style judging of 2-5 marking was used, where a maximum score of 15 could be awarded for each individual entry. This was an

educational experience, where differentiating the high standard of quality entries was the order of the day.

The winners were Gwynfa CC with a final score of 180 marks, with runners-up being Tenby CC with 174 marks.

Both clubs have been invited to represent Wales / Welsh Photographic Federation (WPF), at the annual Photographic Alliance of Great Britain (PAGB) competition to be held at Warwick University on Saturday, July 17.

Gwynfa Camera Club's summer exhibition is on June 7 - July 2 (free admission) at Garth Olwg, Life Long Learning Centre, St Iltyd's Road, Church Village.

For the first time, the summer exhibition will include both prints and digital images. In total, there will be 44 prints and more than 200 projected images with a run time of approximately 20 minutes.

BETTY WALKER

## Bridgend GEM Quiz League

HERE are your four teasers:

1. Figaro is the title character in which opera.

2. Thimpu is the capital of which Asian country?

3. Which former England front row forward had the nickname 'Pitbull'?

4. What is the name given to a line joining points of equal barometric pressure?

A RUDGE (Hon see BGQL)

4. Isobar.  
3. Brian Moore.  
2. Bhanu.  
1. Barber of Seville.  
ANSWERS:



## Council looks at ways to help young carers

A STRATEGY to support carers throughout Bridgend County Borough has been approved by Bridgend's cabinet.

The blueprint, drawn up jointly by the Bridgend Carers Forum in conjunction with the council and the health board, sets out ways in which carers of all ages are to be helped and supported in the work they do looking after relatives and others.

The strategy has a section devoted to young carers. A national survey has found that the average age of a young carer in the UK is just 12 years old and that over half live in a single parent family. Almost a fifth spend more than 20 hours a week providing care, some of which is intimate personal care, for a parent.

Sadly, more than a quarter of young carers have problems at school either by falling behind with their work because of the time they spend caring or by being bullied by other children.

The strategy seeks to address some of these issues by freeing them from some of their caring work so that they can take part in activities and learning.

The report says: "With so many adult responsibilities, young carers often miss out on opportunities that other children have to play and learn."

"Many struggle educationally and are often bullied for being different. They can become isolated with no relief from the pressures at home and no chance to enjoy a normal childhood. They are often afraid to ask for help for fear of letting the family down or being taken into care."

## Canoes take to the river

BRIDGEND and Maesteg Canoe Club hosts the Omore Canoe Slalom on June 26 and 27 when competitions range from division four races for complete beginners, to more advanced competitions such as the Welsh Schools Championships.

Taking place beside Bridgend Recreation Centre, first runs will begin at 11am on the Saturday and 9am on Sunday.

Coun Lyn Morgan, cabinet member for well-being, said: "Here at Bridgend County Borough Council we acknowledge the importance of keeping fit and active. It is fantastic to see exciting competitions such as this taking place within the borough."

The Bridgend Young Carers project (Action for Children) provides a very active range of projects and activities for young carers via the Brackla Meadows Family Centre, the Bridgend Carers Centre and the Solid Rock café.

In 2008-09, the project provided 82 group sessions, 18 social trips including overnight stays and has made good links with Bridgend College to raise the issues facing young carers in Bridgend.

One of the aims of the strategy is to ensure that children are not expected to provide "inappropriate" care. The definition of inappropriate will vary from child to child.

The strategy will also provide targeted support to young carers so that they can engage in sport, leisure and social activities away from the family environment.

Respite care and support will free them from their caring role for as long as necessary. This will mean that they will be able to do the things that other children do who are not carers.

The strategy will also seek to raise the profile of young carers at school by training teachers to recognise them and provide support.

# Lions remember Normandy landings with their French twin - Vimoutiers



ABOVE: Members of the Bridgend and Vimoutiers Lions Clubs and their partners, laying the poppy wreath on the memorial stone at the Bayeux cemetery.

THIS year's visit by the Lions Club of Bridgend to their twin Lions club in Vimoutiers, France, coincided with the anniversary of the World War Two Allied landings on the nearby Normandy beaches and added a poignancy to the usual bonhomie.

To recognise the importance of the date, June 6, the French hosts arranged an excursion for the Bridgend Club to some of the most infamous wartime sites,

spokesman David Jones reports.

The region was alive with British, American and French visitors of all ages. Many of those, of course, were war veterans, many people were dressed in period military uniforms, driving open-top jeeps and ancient motorcycles.

After visiting the legendary Pegasus Bridge, a major objective at the start of the liberation, the party travelled to Arromanches on the coast and observed the beaches with the remains of the renowned artificial Mulberry Harbour. This was a particular-

ly touching moment for one of the Bridgend club's members, whose father was among those troops involved in the assault on these beaches.

Now a small seaside town, Arromanches is alive with cafés and souvenir shops playing the 40s tunes of the Glen Miller Band and Vera Lynn. The town and beaches on this gloriously sunny day were full of families with children sunbathing, paddling and enjoying themselves.

It was quite a happy carnival atmosphere there, which was very much at odds with the horror of the events

which had occurred 66 years earlier.

Before returning to Vimoutiers, the Welsh and French clubs took the opportunity to stop at Bayeux war cemetery to lay a Lions poppy wreath on the memorial, and pause to remember.

Officially twinned in 1979, Bridgend and Vimoutiers Lions Clubs meet annually, alternating their visits.

Members and partners enjoyed their traditional Twinning dinner on Saturday night and a magnificent al fresco Sunday afternoon lunch before the Welsh club's departure for the ferry.

## FARTHINGS CLOSES - but it will rise again, owners promise

The well-known Farthings Restaurant at Cowbridge has closed - eight months after a Cardiff-based company took it over.

The new owners say that they are "considering plans to launch a new restaurant" but the premises are likely to remain empty until "the early autumn" at least.

It was in October of 2009 that Cardiff-based ChoiceProduce took over Farthings, as well as the other two associated businesses, Farthings at Home Delicatessen, and Farthings Events. The latter two businesses are continuing to trade normally.

ChoiceProduce, which is now known as Knife & Fork Food Ltd, came to Cowbridge as owners of two well known Cardiff restaurants, Woods Brasserie and The Conway, and had also taken over at the Old Swan Inn, Llantwit Major. Again, these three businesses are continuing to trade.

However, things have clearly not gone smoothly at Farthings, and a

spokeswoman for Knife & Fork Food Ltd said that the restaurant was still making a loss.

She said: "Despite making significant changes in management, operating procedures and food and wine offerings over the last few months, the restaurant has continued to trade at a loss and, in its present format, has proven uneconomic to keep open."

"Every attempt to reverse this pattern has been made but we believe that only by closing down and opening as something completely different can the business flourish."

"We are considering plans to launch a brand new restaurant, possibly in early autumn."

The spokeswoman said: "We are sad to be taking this unfortunate action, but must look to the future, focusing on our other sites and continuing to offer our customers the high standards they have come to expect from Knife & Fork, all the while considering alternative plans for Farthings restaurant."

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Starters: 2 Poppadoms, 1 Onion Bhaji, 1 Chicken Tikka.

Main Dishes: Chicken or Lamb Karai  
Khyberly & Chicken Tikka Massala.  
Side Dishes: Bombay Aloo,  
2 Pilau Rice & 1 Naan Bread.

**SET MEAL for FOUR £29.95**

Starters: 4 Poppadoms, 1 Onion Bhaji, 1 Chicken Tikka, Aloo Chat & Meat Samosa.

Main Dishes: Chicken Balti, Chicken or Lamb Massala, Fish Bhuna & Vegetable or Chicken Korma.  
Side Dishes: Mixed Veg Bhaji, Aloo Gobi, 4 Pilau Rice,  
1 Keema Naan & 1 Plain Naan

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### Starters

Poppadom	0.50	Mixed Starter	3.95
Chutney (Mango/Onion)	0.50	(Sheek Kebab, Chicken Tikka, Lamb Tikka, Samosa & Onion Bhaji)	
Pickle	0.50	King Prawn Butterfly	3.95
Mint Sauce	0.50	Rashundi Sharishi	
Onion Bhaji	1.95	Fish Tikka	3.95
Samosa (Lamb/Chicken)	2.25	Kalija Puree	
Sheek Kebab	2.25	(Bhuna lamb Liver)	3.95
Tikka (Lamb/Chicken)	2.25	Mushroom Pukka	3.95
Chicken Kebab	2.45	(Dipped in tikka and tandoori spiced warm up with lai moris (roasted crushed chilli) to make it spicy hot then deep fried. Served with mint sauce and green salad)	
Shami Kebab	2.45		
Tandoori Chicken	2.45		
Prawn Puree	2.45		
Prawn Cocktail	2.45		
Hariyali Chicken Tikka	2.45		
Chicken Chaat	2.45		

### Traditional Indian Curries

Madras, Vindaloo or Extra Mushrooms	0.50
Chicken	4.45
Lamb	4.45
Prawn	4.45
Mixed Vegetable	4.45
Chicken Tikka or Lamb Tikka	5.25
King Prawn or Fish	7.25

### Bhuna, Rogon Josh, Dupiaza, Korma, Pathia & Dhansak

Chicken	4.75
Lamb	4.75
Prawn	4.75
Mixed Vegetable	4.75
Chicken Tikka or Lamb Tikka	5.25
King Prawn or Fish	7.25

### Original Balti

Chicken	4.75
Lamb	4.75
Prawn	4.75
Mixed Vegetable	4.75
Chicken Tikka or Lamb Tikka	5.45
King Prawn or Fish	7.25
Chicken, Lamb or Prawn Mushroom	4.95
Chicken, Lamb or Prawn Saag Wala	4.95
King Prawn or Fish Mushroom	7.95
King Prawn or Fish Saag Wala	7.95

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### Exclusive & Contemporary Dishes

#### Baghari Dishes (mild)

Popular Bangali housewife's dish, discovered by our chef and introduced to you with his own spices and herbs. For the Baghari (Deep fried garlic, onions, methi pata in olive oil) we only use olive oil.

Baghari Gosht or Murg	7.95
Baghari Kebab (Chicken Kebab)	8.95
Baghari King Prawn or Fish	10.95

#### Digi Mirch Wala Dishes (hot)

These dishes are our chefs new discoveries from his trip to Bangla. Cooked with our chef's own recipes, topped up with deep fried red chillies.

Digi Mirch Wala Gosht or Murg	7.95
Digi Mirch Wala Kebab	8.95
Digi Mirch Wala King Prawn or Fish	10.95

#### Kalija-e-Khas Dishes (liver)

Popularly served at village wedding parties. Kalija Tawa (medium spiced, lemon flavoured) 6.95  
Kalija Jaitooni (medium spice, with olives & tomatoes) 6.95

#### Popular Tikka Dishes

Chicken Tikka or Lamb Tikka Jalfrezi	5.75
Hariyali Chicken Tikka Bhuna	5.75
Chicken Tikka or Lamb Tikka Kari, Khyberly	5.75
Chicken Tikka or Lamb Tikka Achari (with pickle)	5.75
Chicken Tikka or Lamb Tikka Bhuna	5.75

#### Massala Dishes

Cooked with tandoori massala sauce

Chicken Tikka or Lamb Tikka Massala	5.50
Mixed Vegetable Massala	4.95
Tandoori King Prawn Massala	8.95

#### FROM THE TANDOOR

Tandoori Chicken	5.25
Chicken Tikka	5.25
Lamb Tikka	6.95
Hariyali Chicken Tikka	6.95
Tandoori Mixed Grill (with Naan)	6.95
Tandoori Shashlik (medium sauce)	6.95
Rashundi Sharishi Chicken Tikka	7.95
(marinated in home-made garlic and mustard paste with tandoori and tikka spices with our chef's own herbs and spices)	
Mushroom Pukka	6.95
Rashundi Sharishi Fish Tikka	7.95
Special King Prawn	10.95
(Grilled in a tandoori, topped up with massala and mild butter sauce)	
Tandoori King Prawn	8.95

#### Biryani Dishes

Chicken Biryani	5.75
Lamb Biryani	5.75
Prawn Biryani	5.75
Chicken Tikka	5.95
Lamb Tikka Biryani	5.95
Mixed Vegetable Biryani	4.95
King Prawn Biryani	8.50

Side Dishes from	£2.35
Nan from	£1.75
Chapati	.95p
Rice from	£1.65
Chips	£1.20
Soft Drinks	£1.20



# UGANDAN VISITORS ARE WELCOMED TO THE BOROUGH

**BRIDGEND County Borough Mayor, Coun Colin Teesdale welcomed two special guests from Uganda to the Civic Offices recently, in support of Care for Uganda.**

Visitors Florence Kasule, development officer for Care for Uganda and Bbowa primary school headteacher Moses Sewawa spent 10 days in Wales, funded by the Welsh Assembly Government Gold Star Community award.

Tondu Primary School has established links with Care for Uganda. Headteacher Sue Pilcher, one of four Care for Uganda trustees, has worked closely with two teachers from the school to develop a 'schools'



ABOVE: Mayoress Mrs Gloria Teesdale, Florence Kasule, Moses Sewawa and the Mayor, Coun Colin Teesdale.

pack' for the community of Bbowa in Uganda.

Sue explained: "Pupils at Tondu Primary have enjoyed learning about Uganda and its people."

They have also been raising money which, among other things, has helped to launch a livestock project, which provides a pair of pigs, goats

or chickens to some of the poorest people in the community.

"They can then breed the livestock and return a pair to Care for Uganda to benefit another family."

Care for Uganda works in three areas - Bukasa, Banda and Bbowa. It has built a

school, an orphanage and a clinic and operates a child sponsorship programme for 300 children. With a main base at Bbowa, four Ugandan staff members are living and working there.

Mayor Teesdale, said: "I was thrilled to welcome Florence and Moses to Bridgend County Borough and hope they have enjoyed their visit."

"I look forward to hearing more about developments in the Care for Uganda programme and thank all those teachers and pupils working so hard to develop strong links between our communities."

## MP calls for better NHS treatment of autism

**MADELINE MOON MP has warned that thousands of children with autism are needlessly facing a future of mental health problems, because the NHS does not know how to help them.**

She is backing a new campaign by the National Autistic Society (NAS), You Need to Know, which aims to tackle "an unfit mental health system that fails two thirds of children with autism and often makes their mental health worse".

Madeline said: "We all need to know that by giving children with autism the understanding and support they need, we help promote their health and happiness."

"Too many are currently developing preventable mental health problems and find themselves up against a broken system that doesn't understand them or their needs. It is a tragic waste of their potential."

More than 70 per cent of children with autism have a mental health



MP with the campaign's message.

problem, such as depression, obsessive compulsive disorder and other anxiety disorders, despite the fact that many of these problems are preventable.

Autism is a complex disability and so when mental health problems do develop in children with the condition they are much harder to recognise, diagnose and treat without appropriate knowledge.

Tragically, they are often dismissed as an unfortunate, but unavoidable side effect of having autism.

Mark Lever, chief executive of the NAS said: "All too often children with autism receive inappropriate, ineffectual and sometimes harmful treatment of their mental

health problems.

"This has a devastating effect on families, many of whom develop their own mental health problems as a result."

Mrs Moon is also calling on local children and families affected by autism to nominate their Happiness Hero - an individual who has gone the extra mile to support a child with autism.

It could be a mental health professional, teacher, youth group worker or another individual who has made a positive difference to the life of a child with autism.

For more information, visit [www.autism.org.uk/youneedtoknow](http://www.autism.org.uk/youneedtoknow).

**THE new employee volunteering scheme at Bridgend County Borough Council, developed in conjunction with BAVO, allows members of staff to take three days paid leave each year to help out a local organisation, share their skills and learn some new ones.**

Council Leader, Coun Mel Nott said: "We are one of the area's biggest employers, with over 7,000 members of staff, so this initiative has the potential to make a huge impact, offering organisations in the area hundreds of hours of extra manpower."

"Our employees make a big difference every day by working for the council - lend a hand gives them the opportunity to do even more."

Customer service advisor Beth Reid recently signed up to lend a hand at Y Bont, a family centre which offers support to babies and pre school children with disabilities.

Beth spent her time helping out in the playroom and counting money from collection tins.

Y Bont general manager, Marged Griffiths,

### Chapel

**presentation**  
HOREB Baptist Chapel, Nantymoel, located in Dinam Close, Nantymoel, is the last remaining church in the area to hold religious services.

Missionary Stefan Calin will be holding a presentation on the work he recently carried out in Romania at the chapel on Sunday, June 20 at 6pm.

### Steam loco

**THE steam-driven locomotive, the Princess Elizabeth, will be passing through Bridgend to Swansea on the morning of Saturday, June 19.**

It was built at the Crewe engine works in 1933.

Number 6201 was the second engine of its class and operated on the LMS region; it was officially designated as the 'Princess Royal' class, but this developed the nickname of the 'Lizzies.'

The locomotive achieved fame in November 1936 when it covered the 401 miles between Glasgow and London in 5 hours 44 minutes.

This engine also pulled the heaviest

## NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of THE GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.

I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: **CLIVE MITCHELL**  
1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ  
TEL: 01656 725399  
email: [tyncoed1@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:tyncoed1@yahoo.co.uk)



express trains on the LMS West Coast Anglo Scottish route, plus the heavy Liverpool to Euston boat trains.

It was purchased from British Rail in February 1963, by the Locomotive 6201 Princess Elizabeth Society Ltd, formed as a fund to preserve it as a monument to the work of Sir William Stanier.

### Busy choir

**MEMBERS of Maesteg 'Gleemen' male voice choir have been busy this month, having been one of the choirs that led community singing at the 10th anniversary of the opening of the Millennium Stadium celebrated with the Wales-South Africa rugby international.**

They returned to Cardiff last Saturday where they were singing in the CIA as part of a beer and cider festival to raise money for the charity 'Help the Heroes'.

Tomorrow they will sing several songs at Blaenau Llynfi old school, which is being converted to a community centre in Caerau.

The choir rehearses twice a week, Mondays and Thursdays at the British Legion Club, Commercial Street, Maesteg. Visitors are welcome.

### Art show

**TONU Primary School's year-3 have visited the Tondu and District's Art Society exhibition in the Len Evans.**

I have also been to see the exhibits and the quality this time has been exceptional.

The pupils from years 1 and 2 also put on a show for the retired persons club at the centre last Wednesday.

The school is hoping to hold the sports day for the junior classes on June 22, weather permitting; responsible relatives for the children are invited.

The PTA has organised a boot fair in Lidl's car park on Saturday, June 19, between 9.30am-12noon; cars £3, and vans £5.

It is also looking for donations of goods for display on stalls at the summer fete on June 25 at 3.30pm. They would welcome help from parents.

There will be a fancy dress contest for pupils in Mr Lewis's and Mrs Evan's classes, with a talent show for children in the junior classes. The money raised

from both these events is to be used to improve playground facilities at the school.

Congratulations to Cerys Baker who won the Gregory Brothers competition - look out for the crunchy carrot on the council's recycling vans.

Cerys was recently invited to the Mayor's parlour where she received a cinema voucher for her prize.

### Chocolate

**THERE will be a number of sessions at the St David's Church, Wyndham vicarage held by Canon Edward Evans on Wednesday evenings between June 23 and July 7 from 7.30pm-9.30pm.**

Each session is based on the film *Chocolat* with group discussions and questions on the history of chocolate.

### Church history

**A NEW visitors' guide amplifying the history of St Tydfwg's church, Glynogwr, the monuments and the other items of interest, including individuals associated with the church.**

This guide will be located at the rear of the church and is free to visitors.

The church is celebrating its Patronal Festival on Friday, June 25 and will be holding a 'Songs of Praise' service at 7.30pm.

**Planting plea**  
MR Paul Booth, headteacher of Ogmores Vale primary school, hopes that as part of the school's ongoing playground developments, the banking alongside the infants section will be planted on June 29 from 3pm.

If any person can help with the planting (please bring your own spade), or donate wild bushes and trees, inform the school.

Pupils have been given lucky number sheets which (hopefully) relatives will chose to play.

Each square costs 10p and there are a number of attractive prizes to be won.

All proceeds raised will go towards transport

required for pupils to visit the 'Manor Adventure' in September.

Ogmores Life Centre will be holding Rapper Hip Hop sessions for years 5 to 6 boys on June 21 and 28 at 6pm. Each session will be free.

Each Wednesday and Friday between 7pm and 8pm there will be a Kyokushin Karate club. Phone Sempai Julie on 07989582666 for more information.

### Legion concert

**THE Royal British Legion is holding a commemorative concert at Bridgend Recreation Centre on Saturday, June 19 at 7pm, celebrating its 90 years' existence.**

Entertainment will be provided by the Band and Corps of Drums of South Wales Police Band, Garw Valley male choir (Cor Meibion Cwm Garw) and Swansea Bay choir.

Tickets can be obtained from Alistair on 07530 667019, or the secretary of Major Wayne Morgan MBE on 01656 669872.

### WI lunch

**ABERKENFIG and District Women's Institute's committee would like to remind members that because of bereavement, the annual lunch has been postponed until June 18, but the venue remains the same - the Nicholls Arms at 12.30pm.**

New members and visitors are welcome to the meetings at 2pm on the second Wednesday of each month at the Welfare Hall, Heol Persondy, and Aberkenfig.

### OMISSION

Owing to a printing error, the Welsh medium school at Maesteg was unfortunately omitted from the item last week on pupil Rhidian Jenkins' success at the Udd eisteddfod.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Car boot sale

**THERE will be a car boot sale at the Oystercatcher car park in Laleston on June 26, 10am-12noon**

Cars welcome (entrance fee £5). All proceeds to Bethel Chapel Laleston building fund.

## St Donat's 'timeless tale'

**THE story is timeless: the innocent girl who falls in love with the dashing youth, who is then tempted from her side by the prospect of adventure, leaving her heart-broken.**

It served as the spur to one of Henry Purcell's most glorious scores, *Dido and Aeneas*, which may also have symbolised for a late 17th century audience Britain being tricked by the forces of Roman Catholicism.

*Dido and Aeneas* takes the classical tale of the Trojan Aeneas, who arrives at the court of the

Carthaginian queen, Dido, on his way to found Rome.

It includes the hauntingly beautiful solo *Dido's Lament*.

*Dido and Aeneas* is to be performed by Wales' specialist early music choir, the Welsh Camerata, and soloists from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, accompanied by the Welsh Baroque Orchestra, under early music specialist Andrew Wilson-Dickson, with Baroque dance interludes enacted by the Consort de Danse Baroque.

The producer is the

west Wales mezzo soprano Buddug Verona James, who also plays the role of the Sorceress.

The first half includes choral and dance extracts from *The Fairy Queen*, by Purcell, a so-called 'masque' (or musical adornment) based around Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, interspersed with short readings from the play itself.

Curtain up is at St Donat's Arts Centre, on Sunday, June 20 beginning at 3pm.

For tickets, contact 01446 799100, or email: [enquiries@sidonats.com](mailto:enquiries@sidonats.com)



# LIONS' GOLF DAY GIVES LOCAL CANCER CHARITIES A BIG FUNDRAISING BOOST!



ABOVE: Coun Mary Emmet-Lewis with Gareth Watkins, captain of 'Gareth's Gang'.

**PORTHCAWL Lions Club recently staged its third charity golf day, and the players were blessed with glorious weather.**

Held once again at the Grove Golf Club, which was in excellent condition, the event raised the remarkable sum of £3,000, which was divided equally between the GLAZE prostate cancer charity, which is based at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, and Breast Cancer Wales, which was represented by Mrs Judith Price.

The Mayor of Porthcawl, Coun Mary Emmet-Lewis, presented a cheque to Mrs Price, and also presented the prizes to the winners and runners-up on the golf course.

The ladies' longest drive prize went to Mrs Dianne Hubbard (Pyle and Kenfig GC), while the men's went to Ian Lewis (from Gareth's Gang).

Nearest the pin was Ian Hall of Riverside, and the ladies team prize was won by the Pyle and Kenfig lady vets team.

In third place overall were 'The Commacheros' and in second place was a team from south Wales Police.

The overall winners were Capital Coated Steel. This year's Porthcawl Lions president, Geoff Thomas, said: "Porthcawl Lions would like to thank all who made the day so special and we are already planning for next year's event."

DAVID RICHARDS



ABOVE: Porthcawl Lions president-elect Ralph Anslow with Joan Cosson, the club's activities chair.



ABOVE: Porthcawl Lions' president Geoff Thomas (left) with Coun Mary Emmet-Lewis and the third-placed team 'The Commacheros'.



Mrs Judith Price receives the cheque on behalf of Breast Cancer Wales.

PHOTOGRAPHS by JOHN COSSON



Mrs Pam Savile and Mrs Pam Williams, two of the Pyle and Kenfig lady vets team.



ABOVE: The mayor with the winning team from Capital Coated Steel.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION: DO YOU KNOW YOUR CORRECT RECYCLING AND REFUSE COLLECTION DAY?

**This week (w/c 14 June) your recycling and waste collections changed.**

You should have received a card like this telling you what day your recycling is now collected on **EVERY WEEK.**



On the reverse of the card is a calendar like this which tells you which alternate week your black bag waste is collected. Remember, this will be the same day of the week as your recycling, but will be **EVERY FORTNIGHT.**



**For some areas your collection day will have changed so please check your coloured card carefully.**

If you are still unsure, you or a friend/family member can log on to [www.bridgend.gov.uk](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk). On the front page you will see a 'check your recycling and waste collection day' link where you can enter your address or postcode to find your correct collection day.

If you are still unclear or don't have access to a computer you can call Bridgend County Borough Council on 643643.

**Use this simple checklist to help you:**

- First check your card and calendar to check your weekly recycling day and which alternate week your waste will be collected.
- If you are still not sure or have lost your card, check on [www.bridgend.gov.uk](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk)
- If you are still not clear call Bridgend County Borough Council on 643643 or email [talktous@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:talktous@bridgend.gov.uk)

**A big thank you for all your help and cooperation in this important new scheme to create a cleaner, greener Bridgend County Borough.**

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# THE GLAMORGAN GEM WORLD CUP ROUND-UP

## The festival of football has begun – and so have the mistakes, cards and goals!

**THE World Cup finally got underway last Friday afternoon, and all the talk and conjecture about who should be in the squads of each of the 32 competing countries came to an end.**

Still to be answered, though, are important questions, like who should be in goal for England. We now know how that question was answered, and what the result of that selection was; but we shall return to that one later.

The opening ceremony was, in fairness, a great deal better than many an opening ceremony witnessed in the past at other major sporting events.

I don't think anyone

cheated in the singing of a song, or special computer-generated effects used to fool the watching millions. It was a good celebration, not only of South African culture, but that of the continent as a whole, and I at least understood the message being portrayed.

The first match saw hosts South Africa play Mexico, and despite being without the ball for long periods, the home team produced a cracking goal from Tshabalala.

Unfortunately for the hosts, they couldn't hold onto that lead and Mexico grabbed a deserved equaliser later in the second half.

Honours even then, and quite a good start to the tournament.

Now the general rule for teams in their opening fixture is don't lose.

Australia obviously had

this in mind when they turned up to play Germany without a recognised striker in the starting 11.

They were duly hammered 4-0, and you have to wonder, what happened to the famous fighting spirit we expect from all Aussie teams.

Germany were allowed to play with total freedom and looked good, though I wouldn't get too excited about them just yet – tougher games are to come.

The French who, if rumours are to be believed, are busy fighting with each other and the manager, looked ragged.

The 0-0 draw with Uruguay was only marked out by the first sending off of a player in the tournament.

Of the other big teams,

Argentina beat Nigeria

1-0 and looked strong, only an outstanding display of goalkeeping by Vincent Enyeama preventing Argentina from winning by four or five goals.

Defending champions Italy struggled to a 1-1 draw with Paraguay, as the Italians made their usual slow start to a tournament. In the past, they have always got better and better as things progress, but this time, however, I suspect they may just run out of steam later on.

Holland ran out fairly comfortable winners against Denmark 2-0, without showing too much of the sexy football associated with them recently.

The Asian contingent have also started well, with South Korea running all over a poor Greek team to win 2-0,



by **TONY BENNETT**

and Japan beating Cameroon 1-0.

Of the others, Ghana looked good in beating Serbia 1-0, and the Algeria-Slovenia match was dire.

The only goal in that one came from a gift from the Algerian keeper, who made a complete hash of a soft shot from just outside the penalty area.

That brings us neatly onto England, and another goalkeeper who gifted

the opposition a goal. I did say last week, when looking for an upset, England against the USA might be one to watch, and it was...

The Americans fought hard and despite Gerrard's early goal, they were never out of the match. 1-1 was a fair reflection of the game, America having slightly the better of the chances, while England had the better of the possession.

But all eyes were on Robert Green and his horrendous blunder in letting the ball slip off his hand into the net.

There can be no excuses, and this must mean a change of keeper for the next match, but which one?

In summary, the opening few games have been a bit tight and a bit tense.

The quality of the shooting and dead ball kicks has been really poor, most shots seeming to be heading towards row Z from the moment

the ball leaves the player's foot.

The quality of the officials has been surprisingly good so far, with the exception of the Mexican Marco Rodriguez, an official who brandishes red cards like confetti, and I have seen him in action before.

Four years ago in Munich, during a meaningless match between Serbia and the Ivory Coast, he managed to send two players off and gave the Ivory Coast a very dubious penalty.

Quite what Tim Cahill of Australia did to deserve his red card is beyond me.

This weekend's entertainment starts on Friday lunchtime as Germany play Serbia, and this could be good. We should get a better idea of just how good this German team really is.

On Friday night, England play Algeria, and while I wouldn't expect a shock, just who

will be in goal for England?

Saturday sees nothing outstanding, though Holland against Japan in the early kick-off may be of interest to those, and there are quite a few I know, who have deposited some cash in the bookies on Holland to win the whole thing.

The best prospect must be the Sunday night match between Brazil and the Ivory Coast.

Will Drogba be fit enough to play, and can a team from Africa stand up and beat the world's most successful football nation? I doubt it.

Happy viewing for the week ahead – once everyone has played their first match, things should open up a little and then we will start getting down to the real action and, I suspect, a few more surprises and mistakes!

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## St Helen's pupils are going World Cup crazy!

**RIGHT:** Pupils show off their silky skills to celebrate the start of the World Cup.



Picture by **JOHN O'BEIRNE**

**PUPILS at St Helen's Junior School in Barry joined together to celebrate the start of the World Cup.**

They wore sports kit to school for the day, played mini five-a-side tournaments and learnt all sorts of facts about football and the World Cup

host country, South Africa.

Year-5 pupils (pictured above) made and decorated their own 'Vuvuzelas' and will continue to study the topic as part of their curriculum.

A fun day was had by all and even the teachers learnt some new facts!

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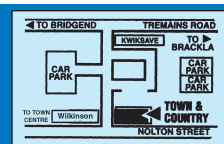


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## Toys from the past enthrall the members of Nottage WI

**T**HE monthly meeting of the Nottage WI branch was held on Thursday June 3 at the Unitarian Church Hall, where the president welcomed members and the minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted.

The speaker for the evening, Steven Jarvis, gave a very interesting talk on the history of toys. One toy shown was a Welsh doll made by Nellie Welling in 1880, which still had

### NEWS FROM NOTTAGE WI

the original clothes on it.

The Chad Valley toys, including Sooty and Sue always had the label in the foot. In later years, the Chad Valley toys were sold in Woolworths. We were also shown some toys from the Triang and Dinky ranges.

One member, Mrs Vi Jones celebrated her 90th birthday recently with a party for family and friends and a good time was had by all!

On June 9, members enjoyed a cream tea

hosted by Newton WI which had a theme of decorated handbags, and they will be attending another cream tea on June 25 hosted by Kenfig WI, which will have a Ryder Cup

theme. The raffle prize for the evening was won by Mrs Joan Thomas.

The branch meet on the first Thursday of each month at 7pm in the Unitarian Church Hall. Anyone wishing to join us will be very welcome. AV

## How recycling can make life 'greener'

### SOUTHERNDOWN WI NEWS

**P**RESIDENT Rhiannon Gaen of Southerndown WI welcomed members to the monthly meeting when the institute remembered the late Barbara Lloyd, a long-time member.

There was also discussion about a plaque for another past member.

The spring meeting (council) was a big success when Ruth Jones spoke. The autumn council meeting will be at Barry, on October 9. A tea and cake event, plus stalls, will be held at the home of Wilma Lock on July 28 and a GFWI quiz at the Hi-Tide Inn, Porthcawl on June 30.

The speaker was

Michelle Fitzpatrick, recycling officer of the Vale, who gave details of Vale recycling schemes. There was criticism, good and otherwise, and members asked legitimate questions about the various branches of recycling.

It would be hard to deny that with some effort from all of us we can help make the future 'greener', healthier and more economic as a result of sorting our rubbish.

Is there a budding alchemist out there who can do something productive about polystyrene?

Next monthly meeting is on July 8 in St Brides Major church hall at 7.15pm, when Lillian Charles will talk about mothers' ruin. BM

## NEWS FROM ST CLARE'S SCHOOL

## 'Avast there, ye scurvy landlubbers, we are the Pirates of Porthcawl!'



The St Clare's Crew (and their mums) under the Jolly Roger.

**T**HERE were cries of 'shiver me timbers' and 'yo ho ho' as nursery and reception pupils from St Clare's School in Porthcawl took part in the Barnardo's Big Toddler.

The theme for this year's Big Toddler was 'pirates' and the St Clare's crew were decked in pirate garb and wielding pirate swords!

The pupils walked around the school grounds collecting treasure from staff and pupils along the way. The chil-

dren were rewarded for their hard work by a magic show at the end of the toddler.

The event received tremendous support from parents and friends and raised more than £600 for Barnardo's.

The Barnardos Big Toddler is a short sponsored walk and fundraising event for toddlers groups and nurseries. The money raised in Big Toddler events goes towards

helping Barnardo's projects helping disadvantaged under-5s to learn and play. These projects tackle a huge array of issues, including young carers,



Edward walks the plank...

children with disabilities and homeless families. Barnardo's Big Toddler for several years and we are proud to be able to make a contribution to such a worthy appeal." DM

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ABOVE: The pupils were welcomed to the mayor's parlour.

## 'Billy Banana', 'Ollie Onion' & Co head new recycling campaign!

SIX local pupils who won a competition to name Bridgend County Borough Council's recyclable characters have been thanked by the mayor.

Hundreds of school-children in the borough had put their thinking caps on, conjuring up imaginative names for the characters, which included a carrot, banana, onion, plastic bottle, glass bottle and a can.

"The high response demonstrated the enthusiasm of local children and their willingness to become engaged with the issue of recycling," a spokeswoman reported.

"Now the winning names can finally be

revealed. They are: Crunchy Carrot, Billy Banana, Ollie Onion, Poppy plastic bottle, Bobby glass bottle, and Dan Can!"

The winners were congratulated in style, at a presentation in the borough mayor's parlour where they were each thanked and awarded vouchers for the Odeon cinema.

The Mayor, Coun Colin Teesdale said: "The amount of entrants we received for the competition was fantastic. It's proof that children in our county borough are taking notice of this serious subject. The competition was designed to communicate the recycling message to school children in a fun and informal way. If we can get the younger generation interested in recycling, hopefully they

will pass on their knowledge and enthusiasm to their families.

"The council is working hard to raise awareness of the need to reduce, reuse and recycle our waste. This, combined with the new recycling and waste scheme,

demonstrates our commitment to a cleaner, greener county borough."

The characters will feature on recycling promotional materials, including trucks that collect the waste and recycling.

## Memories revived of Girl Guiding days for Sker WI!

AT the June meeting of Sker WI in St David's Church Hall, Nottage, the president, Nina Charlesworth, welcomed 47 members.

A delegate's report of the NFWI AGM was read by the secretary. Three members had also attended the meeting and had enjoyed the day immensely, especially the entertainment by 'Only Men Aloud'.

The president reminded members of Sker's summer fayre, to be held in Trinity Church Hall, Porthcawl, on Friday, July 16, at 10.30am to 12.30pm.

Items were needed for the following stalls: craft, cakes, bric-a-brac, books, jewellery, and gifts. Entrance (including of coffee) is 80p.

The speaker for the evening was Mrs Ann

Trimble, her subject 'A Century of Girl Guiding'. Ann reminded members what the Girl Guides and the Brownies were and what their interests were when the guiding movement started.

Many members were in the Girl Guides themselves and were able to reminisce on their own experiences. The evening ended with a singalong around a pretend camp fire. The evening was voted a great success.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, July 8, when Mrs Anwen Williams will be speaking on 'My Life in Film and on Stage'. Visitors are welcome.

For further information, phone secretary, Cynthia Sidey on 01656 784149. BG

# CANCER SPECIALIST'S MARATHON RIDE FOR VELINDRE HOSPITAL

A LOCAL consultant cancer specialist should be more than halfway on a marathon charity ride from Land's End to John O'Groats by the time GEM readers pick up this newspaper.

Dr Tom Crosby, Velindre Cancer Centre's clinical director, is spearheading a new fundraising appeal by cycling the length of Britain.

The appeal will focus on raising cash for less common and hard-to-treat cancers.

The Velindre Cancer Centre 'Attac' (Action to Target Treatment Against Cancer) appeal aims to help people diagnosed with upper GI cancers – stomach, pancreatic, oesophageal and cancer of the gullet.

About 1,400 people in Wales are diagnosed with such cancers every year, but prognosis can be poor because there are not diagnosed in time.

Dr Crosby, who is also a consultant clinical



ABOVE: Dr Tom Crosby has support from a number of Welsh rugby personalities, including Martyn Williams.

oncologist specialising in the field, said: "The goal for all cancer patients is for them to have personalised medicine that targets the cancer itself."

"In the case of chemotherapy, this is about using novel agents to target the cause of the cancer, rather than the relatively crude chemotherapy treatments we use now."

He continued: "This Attac appeal for upper GI cancer is to develop targeted chemotherapy and radiotherapy treatments using modern technology and computer systems, so we are able to treat the tumour and spare a patient as many of the side-effects as possible."

This is an area that Dr Crosby is researching at the moment.

Another aim of the Attac appeal will be to give Velindre patients with GI cancers a specialist nurse.

Dr Crosby said: "We want to fill in the gaps which currently exist. It's all about improving the quality of the service and making that quality equitable across the region."

He added: "Unfortunately patients often present with advanced disease where we know that prognosis can be limited."

"We want to be able to diagnose patients earlier and treat them with more targeted treatments."

"But while patients are presenting with advanced forms of the disease, they also need the specialist care to help them through the challenging treatments."

Dr Crosby has the support of Wales rugby star Jonathan Davies, whose first wife Karen died from cancer at the age of 34.

Dr Crosby will be accompanied on his charity ride by Meurig Evans, the husband of one of Velindre's oncologists and senior hospital specialist Ray Calder.

They will be supported by Dr Crosby's mother Gwenda (78) and her friend Joan Rees.

Dr Crosby said, "I'm a reasonably keen cyclist but I've never done anything like this before – and I've never cycled more than 100 miles. But we'll be doing 100 miles a day over the nine days."

The ride started on June 12, and the trio are due to reach John O'Groats on Sunday, June 19.

To support the Attac appeal, telephone Velindre fundraising on 029 2031 6211 or visit the website [www.justgiving.com/mTom-Crosby](http://www.justgiving.com/mTom-Crosby)

## Litchard pipped in semi-finals

THE Intro-Sport Scorpions Cup Primary School rugby league competition reached its climax in Neath last Sunday when Parcy-Tywyn School from Burry Port beat Georgetown from Tredegar by 1 try to 0 in the grand final before the South Wales Scorpions v Swinton Lions match.

The game was part of 'Super Sunday' at The Gnoil which also saw Wales Dragonhearts

beating Ireland Wolfhounds 34-8 in an 'A' international.

More than 1,000 children took part in the two-month long tournament which had seen six regional festivals produce 12 finalists.

The semi-finals saw Georgetown beat Pontnewydd (Cwmbran) by 1 try to 0 and Parcy-Tywyn beat Litchard (Bridgend) 3 tries to 0. The games were all 10 minutes long with no conversions being attempted.

All four schools then made a guard of honour for the Scorpions and Swinton sides when they ran onto the pitch.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

ST BRIDES MAJOR  
Your local correspondent is  
Patricia Bevan-Morgan  
(01656) 880418

THE Ladies Thursday Club on June 10 had a return visit by Mr Jarvis, who gave an interesting talk with slides on the subject of 'kitchen utensils' of the past.

THE funeral took place on Friday June 11 of Murial Hopla, late of Lon-y-Eglwys, with a service at St Bridget's church, where she was a worshipper; she was also a member of the Mothers' Union. This was followed by cremation at Coychurch.

THE coffee morning at the church hall on Saturday was again well attended and the hall was be-decked with the flags of all the nations

that qualified to take part in the World Cup in South Africa.

THE Slade Farm (Pitcot) open day was successful on a sunny day – lots of activities including meet the animals, guess the weight of the bull, guided biodiversity trail, tractor rides and many more.

WICK Chapel – Dates for the diary up to the August break: June 27, annual flower communion (exchange a small posy). July 11, celebration of past members. July 25, minister Julianne's 20th anniversary as chapel lay-reader.

All services commence at 3pm and will re-commence with a service on Sunday September 12. All are welcome.

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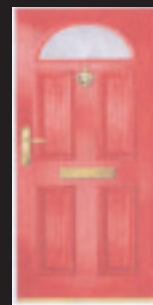
For the majority of people working full time, when they get home after a hard day's work they just want to chill or collapse in front of the TV. Even retired people seem to say "I don't know how I ever had time to work".

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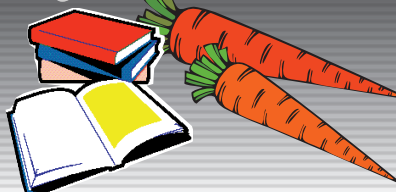
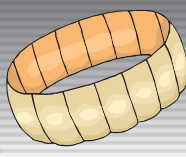
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# COWBRIDGE Summer Update...



## COWBRIDGE HAS PERFECT BLEND OF OLD AND NEW TO ENTICE THE VISITORS!

**COWBRIDGE** is to market itself as an ideal town for a short break – as part of a new strategy devised by the Chamber of Trade.

The chamber has employed a public relations company to draw up a marketing strategy aimed at enticing 'short break' visitors to stay locally.

The strategy will also look at developing new events to act as a draw.

Cowbridge is already a popular shopping destination and is gaining an increasing reputation

for those interested in antiques. The town now boasts a thriving antiques market, located in the former garden centre, plus a number of separate antiques shops.

Between them, they cater for people looking for a variety of items – from full blown classic Victorian and Georgian furniture and clocks, to those wanting bric-a-brac from more recent times.

The market consists of a number of individual shops where traders specialise in different periods.

They offer a vast choice, from children's

### Report by JAYNE ISAAC

classic books, vintage material and embroidered cloths, retro-ornaments from every era up to the 1960s, jewellery, distressed and painted furniture, vintage bags and accessories, dishes and Welsh blankets – to name but a few.

It's a fantastic place to browse and prices vary considerably from those that suit the average pocket, to those which require much deeper ones.

The antiques shops increase the choice available and there is also a monthly antiques fair in the town hall.

Cowbridge is keen to promote niche markets with special events as a means of drawing people in.

Fashion Week has raised its profile, with discerning women keen to be smart and stylish.

The town has a great choice of clothes shops covering all age groups – and with a wide price spectrum.

They are complemented by shops selling shoes and bags and other accessories.

The Food and Drink festival has also helped promote Cowbridge for its choice of great restaurants, cafes and pubs which offer food.

There are also, of course, food shops which sell items such as locally-reared meat, fruit, vegetables and plants, bread and bakery, and delicatessen items.

The latest venture by the forward-looking chamber has seen it take advantage of a chance to secure funding from Creative Rural Communities to promote Cowbridge as a destination for visitors from further afield who would wish to stay for a day or two – or three.

The aim is to cash in

on the lucrative short-stay holiday market which could benefit the whole of the Vale.

The chamber also wants to organise additional events which would draw in both day visitors and people staying longer.

Alun John, chairman of the chamber, said that Cowbridge had not been immune to the effects of the recession which had hit small towns across the UK.

He said: "In addition, the recent completion of the St David's 2 shopping centre in Cardiff and the arrival of John Lewis has heightened the need for Cowbridge to promote itself as a quality shopping destination."

"The town and the surrounding countryside have many attractions, which is why we have brought a PR agency on board to help us raise the profile of the area to both day and short break visitors."

The project has received funding through the Rural Development Plan for Wales, which is administered by the Welsh Assembly Government and the European Agriculture Fund for Rural Development.

The scheme is also supported by Creative Rural Communities, which is the Vale Council's regeneration and development arm.

The chamber will be exploring new ideas over coming weeks before finalising the new marketing strategy.

## Leisure centre wins praise for access

**COWBRIDGE** Leisure Centre has been hailed as one of the "most disability-friendly centres in Wales" – after improvement works that include a state-of-the-art 'Changing Place' for disabled customers.

One of only six such facilities in the country, the 'Changing Place' gives disabled people plenty of space to change in comfort, with help from a carer, and the room is accessible to all, with a fully adjustable changing bed and hoist.

A further hoist has also been installed in the health suite to allow access to the spa, while a new toilet has also been put in place.

However, it isn't just inside the centre that has been improved for disabled customers, as the Vale Council's cabinet member for leisure and tourism Coun Anthony Ernest explained.



Coun Janice Charles, Cowbridge ward member Coun Hunter Jarvie, Coun Anthony Ernest, Cowbridge ward member Coun Geoff Cox, and Simon Jones, the Cowbridge leisure centre manager, are pictured (above) in the state-of-the-art 'Changing Place'.

"The area around the centre has been made wheelchair-friendly, from the new paths alongside the football field to the extra disabled parking spaces and ramp outside the main entrance," he said.

Coun Janice Charles, cabinet member for human resources and equalities, added: "I hope that this fantastic new Changing Place will allow many more disabled local people to experience the pleasures and benefits of exercise."

"As a council, we are committed to providing equal opportunities for local residents and this

is a great example of equalities in action. I am delighted that the council is leading the way with equalities."

The state-of-the-art new facilities at Cowbridge Leisure Centre were created by the Vale Council's access officer Paul Scourfield.

The council has also installed a 'Changing Place' at Penarth Leisure Centre.

In addition to being available to customers at the leisure centres, these can also be accessed by disabled members of the public who need them.

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# COWBRIDGE Summer Update...



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**WE** have the perfect present for the special man in your life... Jon Ian is offering 10 per cent off on Friday and Saturday, June 18-19, from their selection of men's shoes, accessories and gifts.

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The business is thriving, mainly due to word of mouth referrals, and Richard is optimistic that this will continue, given the recent confidence in the economy.

Stay up-to-date with all the goings-on in Cowbridge, and the rest of the Vale, by reading The GEM every week - [cowbridge-today.co.uk](http://cowbridge-today.co.uk)

## Car boot sale

**T**ransition Cowbridge will be supporting Cowbridge Comprehensive PTA car boot on Sunday, June 20.

They are making an appeal for all items that would otherwise be going into landfill and would be suitable for a car boot sale.

The money raised will go to the PTA appeal and local sustainability projects.

Please contact Rob or Dinky on 01446 775686 or [info@transitioncowbridge.org](mailto:info@transitioncowbridge.org).

## Holy Cross gets a new look service

**F**OLLOWING a well-attended, exciting, special family service on Pentecost Sunday, the first new-look family service will be held on Sunday, June 20, at 10.45am, and on every third Sunday of the month thereafter.

A church spokeswoman said: "The aim of the service is to provide a happy, enjoyable service for the whole family, which will include music, drama and worship, followed by refreshments – providing a wonderful opportunity to mix and mingle and grow in fellowship as a community."

"We hope you will join us at these services and help us make them an important, regular 'must-have' part of our community life in Cowbridge."

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We will also once again be supporting the Vale of Glamorgan Show on 11th August – come and see us for tea and cakes!!

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# COWBRIDGE Summer Update...



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## Y BONT FAEN TODDLERS TAKE A WALK TO AID BARNARDO'S



*Class teacher Nicola Jones leads the way at the start.*

**N**URSERY pupils at Y Bont Faen Primary School went for a long walk earlier this week – to raise funds for the children's charity, Barnardo's.

The pupils took part in the 'big toddle', an annual fundraising event run by the charity, and members of the Cowbridge branch of Barnardo's were on hand to supply the little ones with drinks when they finished the walk.

This year, the walk had a pirate theme, and it was the first of two to take place on the day – as the nursery teacher at the school, Nicola Jones, explained:

"This morning, the older nursery group is doing the walk. The younger members of the nursery section are doing their own walk this afternoon."

She added: "We have had a lot of help today from Mr Griffiths, the headteacher, and from classroom assistants Mrs Watt, Mrs Hollings and Mrs Thomas."

Also dressed up in the pirate gear were the ladies from the Cowbridge Barnardo's group: Mary Bird, Janet Lewis, Sheila Davies, Tina Edmunds, Jo Knapp and Morfydd Meredith.



*ABOVE: Crossing the finish line!*

Mary Bird added: "Apart from the sponsorship money raised, events such as this help to keep Barnardo's in the public eye."

"The charity does a lot of things that the public is probably not aware of, including running 'Flying Start' groups in deprived areas, which give pre-school children opportunities to play and learn – which is really important for their development."

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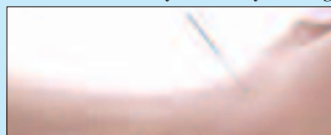
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# COWBRIDGE Summer Update...



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Cowbridge Rugby Club are looking to recruit new players for the forthcoming season.

The club currently runs two senior sides, together with youth and ladies teams.

We encourage players of all standards and are keen to welcome every potential player, both new and old.

We meet at the club house on Thursday evenings from 7pm or for more information please call Dai Breed on 07896 997016

**Cowbridge RFC  
welcomes you!**

**C**OWBRIDGE RFC is already looking ahead to next year; while the official 'pre-season' training starts in earnest next month, throughout June a more light-hearted version is taking place on Thursday evenings from 7pm. Combining with the

club's youth team, who enjoyed another successful season last year, the players are looking to have a bit of fun during the summer, while keeping up fitness levels.

So, to any players out there, from youth to vets, new and old – you are welcome to join us at the rugby club on Thursday evenings!

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# Out and About with The GEM

## Ben Stiller shows off his serious side in Baumbach's *Greenberg*

**T**O many, Ben Stiller is known as the funny guy who, having lit up *There's Something About Mary*, proceeded to marry big laughs with box office success in the likes of *Meet The Parents*, *Dodgeball* and *Starsky and Hutch*.

However, before Stiller's breakthrough with ... *Mary*, he had built up an impressive resume of straight roles that highlighted his ability as an actor, most notably in *Zero Effect* and *Permanent Midnight*.

Having shown his comedy chops for the past 10 years, Stiller takes on something a touch more dramatic with Noah Baumbach's latest effort, *Greenberg*.

Stiller plays Roger Greenberg, a socially awkward 40-year-old who has recently left a mental hospital.

Moving into his brother's home while he and his family are away, Greenberg gets close to the family's assistant Florence (Greta Gerwig), and the pair's relationship sees Roger reassessing his life, trying to mend broken bridges such as those with his best friend Ivan (Rhys Ifans); however, Greenberg's personality seems to be the stumbling block for achieving happiness as he finds himself losing a winning battle...

Noah Baumbach's previous works have mined gold from the world of middle-class, dysfunctional families and the lives that they lead. Both his directorial efforts thus far (which he also, like *Greenberg*, wrote) *The Squid and The Whale* and *Margot At The Wedding*, have taken a deep look at the neuroses of these characters, what makes them tick and why they are so dysfunctional without being overly judgmental.

It is a well that he strikes a third time here, and while perhaps not with the same unnerving

accuracy that those earlier films achieved, still makes for a pleasing, if slightly low-key, viewing experience.

Those familiar with the work of Wes Anderson will see a familiarity in Baumbach's work, understandable since the pair co-wrote both *The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou* and Anderson's take on *Fantastic Mr Fox* – both seem to take great delight in highlighting the familial breakdowns that can occur and the relationships they affect.

While that was true of Baumbach's first two efforts, *Greenberg* puts all of the weight onto the titular character, a bundle of mixed up sentiments and beliefs, ranting with anger one minute (most memorably upon receiving a birthday cake in a restaurant) and wondering why his former life has given way to the one he is living now.

Baumbach's deftness is shown wonderfully through the writing of the film, its wry comedy being generated by the characters and the situations they are in rather than any convoluted setups or plot points.

Keeping things almost fly-on-the-wall (much like his previous work), the film feels steeped in reality and this allows the comedy, and the drama, to unfold naturally without being forced.

His direction is similarly unobtrusive, catching the glow of Los Angeles without the glossy veneer and keeping things as sparse as can be.

The opening shot in particular sets out his stall – the camera's main focus is on the actors and the characters; the visual element is a by-product of that.

He is aided by wonderful and engaging turns from a cast varying in terms of exposure: Ben Stiller shows he is more than just a comedy actor with a turn that is both tragic and comedic, yet is also unafraid to buck your expectations.

It would have been easy to create a character

whose attempts to work through his issues are fraught yet come with good intentions, but *Greenberg* isn't one of those characters.

Instead, you have to try and like him despite his actions, the character annoying and, at times, horrible, yet Stiller's turn offers a touch of light at the end of the dark tunnel, making him a protagonist hard to root for, but not wholly unlikable.

The counterpoint to Greenberg's bitterness and resentment is Greta Gerwig's Florence, and for the little-known actress it is a performance that is excellent.

Perhaps as troubled as Greenberg, she is open and welcoming to his closed-up and shut off personality. On the surface opposites, they are more linked than they realise, and Baumbach doesn't force the relationship between the two, the pair discovering each other almost with reluctance.

Gerwig's performance is beautifully judged, capturing the fragility of the character while making her thoroughly appealing, it is a turn that marks Gerwig out as one to watch.

Similarly, it also nice to see Rhys Ifans back in front of the camera, and much like Stiller and Gerwig, he offers up a restrained and subtle performance, another character with issues and troubles, but one the Welshman essays with no little amount of skill. Certainly, while

### SCREEN TALK



by GARETH JAMIESON

Baumbach treads a world he is more than familiar with, the film doesn't quite have the acerbic bite of his previous works, lacking the cohesion and shape that would let it really excel.

However, come a climax that eschews redemption for hope, you will feel satisfied by *Greenberg*, a film whose focus on characters and situation works incredibly well, if without grand dramatics.

**VERDICT** – Familiar ground, but one that is still well worth mining, Noah Baumbach is on good form for *Greenberg*.

Sharply written and directed, its slightly meandering style retains charm while the performances from Ben Stiller, Greta Gerwig and Rhys Ifans are perfectly pitched; a low-key delight, and one that is well worth seeking out. Enjoyable.

## Are you sitting comfortably..?

**STORYTELLER**  
Cath Little will be working with children aged three – seven, to create a poem about their local library in Bridgend on June 19 between 2.15pm-3.15pm.

A BCBC spokeswoman said: "Inspired by the recent 'Express Yourself' libraries challenge, where more than 1,600 people of all ages took the opportunity to write a poem, create a work of art or perform a

play that would inspire people to visit their local library, Cath Little will create a rich sense of magical storytelling to make a fun filled, creative writing session especially for children."

Admission is free. For further details, call Bridgend Library on (01656) 764830, email: [bridgendlib@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:bridgendlib@bridgend.gov.uk) or visit [www.bridgend.gov.uk](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk).

All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

## Ty Hafan benefits from 'dress up or down' day



STAFF at training and employment specialists, A4e Wales, raised almost £200 by hosting a Ty Hafan children's hospice 'Dress up or down for £1' day.

ABOVE:  
The A4e fundraising team show off their fashion sense.

The Barry-based team chose to dress in bad-taste outfits, putting together the most mis-matched combinations they could find in their wardrobes! Local businesses and customers in the Buceaneer pub dipped into their pockets for the Sully-based charity.

## Police officers take on charity peaks challenge

**VALE police officers and staff spent their bank holiday weekend taking on the 3 Peaks challenge in Wales, England and Scotland to raise funds for Ty Hafan children's hospice and Cancer Research Wales.**

A team of 16 men and women – four drivers and a dozen climbers – set off from south Wales in the early hours, shortly after some officers had finished their shifts to travel north to Snowdon, where they wasted no time in setting off on the first leg of their marathon effort.

After a swift descent, they piled into minibuses for another four-hour drive to the foot of the 2,890 feet Scafell Pike, in the Lake District. Then followed a six-

hour drive through the night to Fort William in the Scottish Highlands and scaled Ben Nevis.

By the time the team had returned to the foot of the Ben, they had beaten the clock with half an hour to spare.

Inspector Chris Patterson said: "We were all delighted to have succeeded in the challenge we set ourselves. We certainly didn't make it easy for ourselves by having to start from Barry police station on Friday morning."

As well as the physical effort of completing all three climbs within 24 hours, we had to try and get what sleep we could while travelling between peaks.

"Our goal was to raise more than £2,000 and once we have collected all our pledges, I am confident that we will have far exceeded this amount."

## Local college wins a national award

**BARRY College has won a national award for its innovative approach to learning.**

The college claimed the prized innovation in leadership and management of vocational education award at the Colegau Cymru Annual Awards 2010. The award reflects 50 years of vocational training across a broad range of areas at a local regional level, to meet the needs of its students and business and industry across Wales.

Barry College principal Paul Halstead, said: "I was delighted to accept the award on behalf of the dedicated and hard-working staff at Barry College."

"We have made a significant investment in our staff in order to become an institution which provides innovative solutions to leadership and management in order to better serve our learners, the employers we work with and the wider community."

## 'Fungus killing off larch trees' – COMMISSION WARNS

**FORESTRY Commission Wales experts are working to contain an outbreak of Phytophthora ramorum (P. ramorum) infection in Japanese larch trees in the Garw Valley and Vale of Glamorgan.**

"P. ramorum is a fungus-like pathogen that kills many of the trees that it infects. It was found on Japanese larch trees in south west England last year, and the outbreak in woodlands in the Garw Valley, and the Vale and Afan Valley is the first time it has been encountered on

larch elsewhere in Great Britain," Richard Siddons, head of grants and regulations for Forestry Commission Wales, said; "Like any threat to our trees, woods and forests, finding Phytophthora ramorum on Japanese larch in south Wales is a worrying development."

"So far in Wales, it has only been found in woodland managed by Forestry Commission Wales on behalf of the Welsh Assembly Government."

"However, the situation is changing rapidly as we undertake more surveys, and it is likely that the infection has spread more widely," he warned.

## Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

**THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number 622.**

● **£2000:** 804027.  
● **The rollover, which now stands at £4,000:** 358487.

● **£10:** 571336; 792664; 792668; 792671; 792672; 792673; 792674; 792675; 792676; 792677; 792678; 792679; 792680; 792681; 792682; 792683; 792684; 792685; 792686; 792687; 792688; 792689; 792690; 792691; 792692; 792693; 792694; 792695; 792696; 792697; 792698; 792699; 792700; 792701; 792702; 792703; 792704; 792705; 792706; 792707; 792708; 792709; 792710; 792711; 792712; 792713; 792714; 792715; 792716; 792717; 792718; 792719; 792720; 792721; 792722; 792723; 792724; 792725; 792726; 792727; 792728; 792729; 792730; 792731; 792732; 792733; 792734; 792735; 792736; 792737; 792738; 792739; 792740; 792741; 792742; 792743; 792744; 792745; 792746; 792747; 792748; 792749; 792750; 792751; 792752; 792753; 792754; 792755; 792756; 792757; 792758; 792759; 792760; 792761; 792762; 792763; 792764; 792765; 792766; 792767; 792768; 792769; 792770; 792771; 792772; 792773; 792774; 792775; 792776; 792777; 792778; 792779; 792780; 792781; 792782; 792783; 792784; 792785; 792786; 792787; 792788; 792789; 792790; 792791; 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# Out and About with The GEM

## Polo comes to Cardiff Castle

THE first-ever polo event to be held inside the walls of Cardiff Castle will take place this summer to raise money for Welsh charity The Noah's Ark appeal and GEM readers can win one of five family tickets (two adults and two children) for the event!

'Polo in the Castle' will be held in Cardiff Castle on Sunday, June 27.

It is designed to give residents unprecedented access to an international sport that dates back more than 1,400 years.

The event has attracted support from a number of high-profile Welsh celebrities, including Welsh star and patron of the Noah's Ark Appeal, Charlotte Church.

She said: "I am particularly looking forward to the inaugural 'Polo in the Castle'."

"It is an event that I fully support and I hope to see you all there."

With 100 per cent of the profits made on ticket sales going to the Noah's Ark Appeal, 'Polo in the Castle' is a key event in the charity's 10th anniversary celebrations.

It aims to raise a further £7 million to equip and complete the second phase of the hospital.

Established in 2000, The Noah's Ark Appeal was set up to help support the Children's Hospital for Wales.

The Noah's Ark appeal is the only charity exclusively raising money for the hospital and relies on the support

and generosity of individuals, companies, and charitable trusts, across Wales.

Lyn Jones, chairman of the appeal said: "The day is set to be a great success and we are confident that this will become an annual event for a cause close to all our hearts."

"The event will help to raise the profile of the charity and the Children's Hospital for Wales."

For more information, visit: [www.polointhecastle.co.uk](http://www.polointhecastle.co.uk)

To be in with a chance of winning one of the five pairs of family tickets, simply call The GEM on 01446 774484, quoting Noah's Ark competition, with the correct answer to the following question:

• Which celebrity is a patron of The Noah's Ark Appeal?

The first five callers will each win a family ticket, so you have to be quick!

Normal competition rules apply.

## Teddy Bears' pub picnic

THE Cwmtalwg Woodlands Association is holding a Teddy Bears' picnic this Saturday (June 19) at 2.30pm, in the wood opposite the Millwood pub (formerly the Cwmtalwg) Severn Avenue, Barry.

If it rains on June 19, the picnic will be held on June 26 at 2.30pm.

## Adventure Island Drawing and Colouring Competition



Send in your picture depicting the theme ... **"SUMMER HOLIDAYS"**

**1st PRIZE:** Summer holiday season ticket for one child, valid 19th July to 15th September, 2010.

**2 RUNNER-UP PRIZES:** One week of unlimited entry to Adventure Island for 1 child for a week of your choice between 19th July and 5th September, 2010.

**AGE CATEGORIES:** Up to 5 yrs; 6 to 8 yrs; 9 to 11 yrs.



The winning entries will be displayed at Adventure Island.

Hand in or send your entries along with your name, address, age and telephone number to Rachel Davey at

**Adventure Island**  
3-10 Esplanade Buildings,  
Friars Road, Barry Island,  
CF62 5TJ

Closing date:  
Saturday, 3rd July, 2010.



**BRO Radio and The Glamorgan GEM** working together to bring you the very latest local news from your new community station, BRO Radio. Got a news story for us? Then call us on 01446 420681 or email: [news@broradio.fm](mailto:news@broradio.fm) or contact the Glamorgan GEM on 01446 774484

## 'JOIN THE DOLPHIN WATCH THIS SUMMER'

LOCAL residents are being urged to keep a special look out for dolphins and porpoises – as part of a national survey.

Welsh wildlife TV presenter Iolo Williams has teamed up with the

**Wick talk**

There will be an open evening at Wick Chapel on Tuesday, June 29, at 6.30pm to discuss religious diversity and the real historical life of Jesus.

"GEM readers are invited to view the historic chapel at Wick, listen to an illustrated talk and enjoy a discussion over refreshments."

"You will not be expected to take part in any religious activity," a spokeswoman said. [www.wickchapel.org.uk](http://www.wickchapel.org.uk)

**FATHER'S DAY** FRIENDS of Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery, Barry, will open the cemetery chapel for Father's Day for all to remember lost loved ones, from 10am-3pm.

All money raised is spent on small good works at the cemetery, to enhance the 55-acre site, which is owned and run by Barry Town Council.

marine research charity Sea Watch to call for Welsh wildlife lovers to take part in this year's 'National Whale and Dolphin Watch' – and also its 'photo a fin' campaign.

A spokeswoman for Sea Watch told The GEM that they were equally keen to receive reports of sightings in the Bristol Channel.

Sea Watch is appealing for people to send in pictures of the fins and markings of whales, dolphins and porpoises that they see either from land or from sea – so that they can be

matched against pictures of known individuals.

National Whale and Dolphin Watch takes place around the coast of the UK August 7–15 and helps build up a snapshot of marine mammals in UK coastal waters.

Members of the public can send in their own sightings or join public watches.

To find out more about how to take part go to [www.seawatch-foundation.org.uk](http://www.seawatch-foundation.org.uk) and follow the links from the home page.

## Roadworks round-up

PLASSEY Street, junctions with Glebe Street, Ludlow Lane, Ludlow Street, Arcott Street and Windsor Road, Penarth – carriageway width restrictions.

Pontypridd Street, junction with Mount Pleasant, Barry – footway restriction in place. Gladstone Road Bridge to the Waterfront, Barry – traffic management.

## ADVICE SURGERY

DAVID MELDING, Conservative Assembly Member for South Wales Central region, will be holding an advice surgery on Friday, June 25, at 29 High Street, Barry.

It will be held between 10am-11.30am.

No appointments are necessary and all are welcome to attend.

## CAFE CONTINENTAL

## FATHER'S DAY

Sunday, June 20th 2010

2 Course Carvery

only £6.95

and Dads get a Free Pint

Booking advisable

01446 721888

[info@cafecontinental.biz](mailto:info@cafecontinental.biz)

[www.cafecontinental.biz](http://www.cafecontinental.biz)

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VALE OF GLAMORGAN CF63 5TR



## OCEAN LOUNGE

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OPEN

THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS,  
SUNDAYS & BANK HOLIDAYS

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

Friday 18th June

Marcus T - Vocalist (9pm)

Saturday 19th June

The Splott Bottom Boys  
display their musical versatility  
plus Bingo

Sunday 20th June

Porkkerry's Got Talent - The Prequel  
featuring Chris & Jordan  
plus Rob Hughes

Friday 25th June

DANSETTE

Eight-piece band playing an authentic mix of 60s soul standards from the Stax/Atlantic/Motown stables. A soul journey through that golden era - enjoyment is guaranteed! Doors open 7pm. Ticket entry £5.

**CAR BOOT SALE**

Sunday 2pm - 5pm

Every Thursday: Curry & A Pint £5.99  
7-9pm - Quiz from 8.30pm

**FOOD SERVED**

Great Value menu from only £4.99

**Traditional Sunday Lunch**  
served 12-3pm from only £6.95

**Tel. 01446 710362/711538**

A new family in charge -  
Andy and Angela Jarrett and son Chris...



THE HUB  
OF VILLAGE  
LIFE IN  
COLWINSTON

Food served:

Tues-Sat 12noon-2.30pm

Tue-Sat 6-9pm

Sunday's 12noon-4pm

Home made cuisine a speciality and 'real chips' guaranteed

**FATHERS DAY SPECIAL**

Sunday lunch (12noon-4pm) 20th June  
2 Courses £8.95

Prebooked tables Dads and Grandads -  
FREE PINT or PUDDING

**TOM SHANKLIN - CHARITY BREAKFAST**

Saturday 26th June, 7.45am

All Blacks v Wales - Questions/Answers session

Full cooked breakfast

Tickets £10 - Prebook (Limited supply)

Proceeds to Breast Cancer Wales

**SENIOR CITIZENS  
LUNCHTIME  
SPECIAL**

(Tue and Thurs)

£4.95 Select Menus

Check out the changes - 01656 652827





## HEATHER GETS A 'CHAMP' AWARD

A MAESTEG woman has been honoured by the RNID for her work as a volunteer for the charity.

At the charity's annual volunteer awards ceremony in Cardiff, 24-year-old Heather Thomas was presented with RNID Cymru's 'Volunteer Champion' award to mark her tireless commitment to the charity's volunteering programme.

A spokesperson stated: "Heather is an excellent and enthusiastic role model for young people who are deaf, in that she approaches everything with a 'can do' attitude."

"She arranges and hosts RNID Cymru's volunteering coffee mornings where she encourages volunteers to take up placements within RNID and external organisations."

Heather commented: "I thoroughly enjoy volunteering for RNID



ABOVE: Heather Thomas (right) receives her award from Rosemary Butler AM.

Cymru, because not only have I developed new skills, but I'm offering support to people in my area who are deaf and hard of hearing. "I can't believe I've been given an award - I've just been delighted to help in any way that I can!"

For more information about volunteering for RNID Cymru, contact Alison Parry on 029 2033 3034, textphone 029 2033 3036, or e-mail: [alison.parry@mid.org.uk](mailto:alison.parry@mid.org.uk)

## PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS TAKE A CROSS-BORDER STROLL

### Walkers enjoy the history and beauty of the Llynfi Valley

ONLY only three walkers turned out recently to join Janet and John for a pleasant walk just the other side of the Llynfi Valley.

On a humid, overcast but dry morning, the group left a housing estate on the edge of Maesteg to follow a stony bridleway downhill through a wood, before joining Llan Road and walking to Llangynwyd village, which is dominated by the church.

The church, dedicated to St Cynwyd, was founded in the 6th century but was rebuilt in the 13th century - and has since been restored several times. The low square tower was completely restored in 1893.

There is a lovely old Welsh legend, the Maid of Cefn Ydfa, that involves a local thatcher and poet, Wil Hopcyn, who fell in love with a local girl, Ann Thomas, whose mother Catherine did not believe that Wil was good enough to court her daughter.

So she arranged for Ann to marry a gentleman called Anthony Maddox, which Ann did, but eventually she died of what some people believed was a broken heart.

Both Ann and Wil are buried in the churchyard under the trees, and across the road is a thatched inn called Yr Hen Dy (the Old House)

and the cross between the church and the inn is a memorial to Wil.

The inn is believed to be the oldest in south Wales and the village still celebrates the coming of the New Year with the Mari Lwyd, which has changed over the years, but involves a horse's skull draped in a white sheet with flowers being paraded through the village.

Following the road uphill, a stop was made to discard clothing as the sun shone and it became very humid, and as the rough farm tracks led them gently uphill they paused for coffee, just as the sky clouded over and a few drops of rain fell.

Refreshed, they continued uphill, passing the site of Y Bwlwarcarn, a hill-slope fort that possibly dates back to the Iron Age and is situated on an east facing part of Mynydd Margam.

The fort covers a huge area of land and the small central part, enclosed by a bank and ditch some two-metres deep, is the area which was inhabited, and this was protected by more outer circles.

Joining the Coed Morgannwg Way, which runs for 36 miles, swaths of the conifer plantations have been harvested, resulting in huge piles of logs along the track. They watched a fledgling wagtail that hadn't quite got the hang of flying do a

crash landing on a log before moving on to view a copy of the Bodvic Stone.

The original is housed in the Margam Stones Museum and was dedicated to Bodvoc, the son of Cattegern.

Lunch was enjoyed a little further along before the group moved on through forestry paths and turning downhill, they were greeted by green verges that were bedecked with sweet-smelling bluebells and overhung with hawthorn trees covered with May blossom beside Cwm Sychbant.

Sometimes, fallow deer roam here but not today, so following the road and then taking a diverted path, where the resident stallion had to be bribed with an apple to let them through, they crossed a stile through a bluebell wood and nature reserve to eventually retrace their steps back to their cars.

Wear suitable clothing, preferably boots and carry waterproofs, food and drinks. Some degree of fitness is required and if you are in any doubt, then please contact the walk leader for advice.

For other groups' walk log onto [www.ramblers.org.uk](http://www.ramblers.org.uk) Rucksack badges, programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2021 9102.

JOY STRANGWARD

## 'Wise up about your waste' - Bridgend council's recycling message

AS its new recycling contract gets underway, Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) is asking residents to 'wise up on waste'.

The new system started on Monday (June 14) and now the authority and its new partner, May Gurney, is collecting waste and recycling in a new way.

A huge range of recyclable material can now be collected every week, while leftover, non-recyclable waste, is being collected fortnightly.

Because of the new scheme, some residents' collection days may have changed.

Now, with the first week underway (see advert on page 7), the council is asking residents to 'wise up on waste' by:

- Checking you know your recycling collection day and which week your non-recyclable rubbish will be collected.

The coloured card and calendar which was posted to homes recently will explain this, or you can log on to [www.bridgend.gov.uk](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk) and follow the 'check your recycling and waste collection day' link on the front page.

By entering your postcode, you can find out your weekly recycling collection day and alternate week waste collection.



### COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL  
Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 860303

### Dr Who

FOR more than seven days, our St Mary Hill church became a wonderland for the filming of a Dr Who episode.

Church organist, Mrs Mary Lloyd, told me it was amazing how the interior of the church was transformed for the making of the film.

Great care was taken of the organ and the seats, which were removed. Unfortunately, when I visited the site there only remained the workmen, who were busy cleaning and replacing everything.

St Mary's and the surrounding area was chosen because there was very little interference with traffic, and ample parking was available in a nearby field.

The episode will be shown later this year.

### Community council

THE annual general meeting of Llangan Community council took place on Monday, June 14.

Coun Linda Vafidis, who had carried her

- Checking you have the right containers to recycle including two black boxes, a brown food waste bin, a brown food waste kitchen caddy plus biodegradable caddy liners and a blue sack. Telephone 01656 643643 if you don't have all of these.

- Checking you know what material goes in which container. Your coloured card or recycling booklet tells you this or you can check [www.bridgend.gov.uk](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk).

- Thinking about how you can reduce and reuse, as well as recycle, so you are throwing away less.

Coun John Spanwick, the cabinet member for communities at BCBC said: "We have received a lot of very positive support for the new scheme and May Gurney tell us that we have already seen some communities really go for it when it comes to recycling."

"However we would urge all residents to check their collection days, as they have changed for some areas, and this can take some getting used to."

"If a neighbour puts their containers or landfill sacks and you think it's wrong, please check. "I have great faith in our communities that they want to help create a cleaner, greener borough and we are determined to do all we can to help them."

## Rogue traders are targeted in joint campaign



ABOVE: Coun David Sage (second right) represented Bridgend at the campaign launch.

### DOORSTEP crime is being targeted in Bridgend county borough and the Vale.

BCBC's Trading Standards team has joined forces with colleagues in the Vale Council and South Wales Police to give a joint pledge.

A spokeswoman explained: "The 'Memorandum of Understanding' is designed to make it easier for residents throughout the two local authority areas to get the right assistance when they need it. It means both councils and South Wales Police now have a clear agreement on how they will work together on doorstep crime enforcement including regularly exchanging information and intelligence."

Acting Detective Chief Inspector

Stephen Rees commented: "Although doorstep crime is rare locally, incidents involving bogus callers and distraction burglaries are often targeted toward vulnerable people."

"As such, they can have a devastating impact on victims and their families. Offenders are often opportunistic and incidents can be avoided through basic crime prevention measures."

"We would ask people to report any suspicious activity and to assist vulnerable family members and neighbours with advice and a watchful eye. Often the persons who commit such offences will travel across several local authority areas on an offending spree. This joint agreement between two local authorities and South Wales Police is a massive step forward."

## It's Louise... but much larger than life!



ABOVE: GEM readers may recall that last week we reported that Louise Day of Porthcawl had been chosen to be part of the launch of a new cancer charity fundraising day. To publicise the day, 11 cancer survivors were selected to have their image projected onto Cardiff City hall at night - about 50 feet high!

It was 16 years ago that Louise, who is now 34, was diagnosed with skin cancer but fortunately, it was spotted in time. The fundraising event, scheduled for September, aims to have thousands of people walking through Cardiff at night, while the city will be specially lit up for the occasion. For more information, or to sign up to take part in the Shine event, visit [www.cancer-researchuk.org/shine](http://www.cancer-researchuk.org/shine)

### COMMUNITY CAFE ON MOVE

THE Community Café, run in the Ogmere Valley by Cross Roads Care, is moving.

The café was held for the last time at the Ogmere Valley Welfare Hall in Ogmere Vale on Tuesday.

Its next session will be on Monday, June 21, at the Nantymoel Boys and Girls Club at Pricetown Square, all are welcome. Opening hours are 12.30pm to 3.30pm.

Crossroads Care works with 35,000 individuals and their families throughout the UK.

## Search starts for volunteers

SOUTH Wales Police Authority is launching a search for the 2010 Community Safety Volunteer of the Year.

This year there are four categories: Community Safety Volunteer of the Year; Young Community Safety Volunteer of the Year (must be under-21); Community Safety Volunteer Team of the Year; Community Safety Initiative.

Authority, Councillor Russell Roberts, said: "The awards are an excellent way to reward the hard-working people in our communities who assist the force and the authority in performing well."

Nominations can be made via the Police Authority website at [www.southwalespoliceauthority.org.uk](http://www.southwalespoliceauthority.org.uk), or by calling the office directly on 01656 869366.

Chair of the Police



# Future of skate park in doubt over 'obstacles'

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

He was backed by Coun Alana Davies, who is a member of Bridgend's cabinet: "We should not hide our young people away. A fence would also be more intrusive than the skateboard park," she maintained.

She had spoken to the officers involved already and would be raising the issue with cabinet colleagues.

Coun John Bunker could not believe the council's attitude.

"The planners are sitting there in their ivory towers and putting a spoke in our wheel. On the one hand, they offer us money to do it, but now it seems to be a major problem. It will be like a prison camp there if they get their way. Words fail me."

The contractors have also informed the council that they have never been asked to provide a fence for any skateboard park they have built anywhere else in the country.

Coun Gerald Davies commented that although he was never in favour of the park, the council had taken a democratic decision and should not have these obstacles placed in their way.

He asked the clerk to prepare a full report out-

lining the chronology of events.

Coun Sean Aspey pointed out that Heol y Goedwig was the borough council's preferred choice.

Coun Rosemary Deere said that the young people were forming a club to run the skateboard park and they intend to run training sessions.

"If this fails, we need to issue a statement to say that the blame does not lie with us," she added.

Coun Chris Smart urged a face to face meeting be arranged with the planning officers to try to thrash out the problems.

Coun Deere agreed that a meeting should be organised and said that the people of Porthcawl would be seriously upset if the scheme did not go ahead because of BCBC intransigence.

"We have put money in, attracted match funding for the town and we have also agreed extra funding for the crossing. The credibility of BCBC will be diminished if this fails."

"If BCBC does not withdraw these restrictions, this park will not go ahead."

Coun Alana Davies promised to arrange a meeting with the necessary officers and members.

A spokesman for BCBC said that following a noise assessment survey at the site, an acoustic bund of between six and eight feet in height had been recommended to reduce noise levels at nearby houses.

The final height of the bund has not been confirmed.

The spokesman said that a fence around the site to control how the skate park is used late at night to prevent antisocial behaviour, as well as a pedestrian crossing in the interests of highway safety, were also identified.

He said that the application is still being processed and will be discussed by the development control committee at a later date.

Speaking afterwards to The GEM, Coun Deere said he was very angry: "If it fails, people must know where the blame lies. I will be laying the blame squarely on the officers," he warned.

Coun Deere added that the ruling Conservative group, backed by Labour, had already had to fight the Liberal Democrats, who were opposed to the project.

See former Lib-Dem councillor Mike Clarke's letter on page 2.

# Weapons found after police raid

**FIREARMS, ammunition, component parts to make firearms and precision tools used to alter firearms have been recovered from a Bridgend address, along with considerable amounts of swords, knives and offensive weapons, South Wales Police revealed this week.**

A substantial quantity of controlled drugs were also seized and 20 officers took three days to recover the items from the address in Mackworth Street.

Detective Constable John Doherty, of Bridgend CID, reported that a positive warrant has been executed following community-led information:

"A tremendous amount of work has been carried out to gather evidence, and I believe that this raid will be the first of many linked to the intelligence that we have received," he reported.

A 40-year-old local man has been charged and remanded to court.

# Hospital chaos over admissions

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Now, health minister Edwina Hart is to be questioned about what's going on at the hospital.

Andrew RT Davies, Regional AM for the Vale, who is also the shadow health minister for Wales, said he would raise this with Edwina Hart at the earliest opportunity.

"I want to know why bed numbers are being cut, particularly as we approach the autumn, when pressure on front line services is likely to be more acute."

The GEM revealed last week that Bridgend has lost more than 200 beds over the past 25 years - before these latest cuts take effect.

Mr Davies said he was concerned about the knock-on effect on ambulances which were caught up in log jams at A and E departments.

He said: "This is not only distressing for the patients, but could result in an urgent 999 call having to wait much longer for an available ambulance."

"It is increasingly difficult for dedicated and hard-working NHS staff to carry out their roles when beds are being cut at such an alarming rate."

A spokesman for ABM health board said that the Princess of Wales hospital did not close to new admissions on Monday, but there was a larger than usual number of patients with complex issues - many

arriving in quick succession.

This coincided with later than usual discharges of inpatients.

The spokesman said that a high number of planned in-patients also arrived for admission which created "some pressures" during the afternoon.

The vast majority of patients waiting had not been identified as needing admission at this point, and were still being assessed.

The ambulance service was warned of potential delays and contingency plans were put in place to increase bed capacity if it was required and, by evening, all patients requiring admission had been allocated beds, with spare capacity if needed.

The spokeswoman said that had been an increase in people turning up at A and E from Neath Port Talbot, and this is now being addressed with a view to ensuring that patients use their local hospital.

Work is now ongoing to improve the situation at PoW, with additional consultant input being trialled to see if decision-making from senior doctors improves the flow of patients being assessed.

The spokeswoman added that over recent weeks, more than 90 per cent of patients have been seen and either admitted or discharged within four hours.

# Council's office costs are probed

**P O R T H C A W L** Town Council is to investigate the total cost of purchasing its offices at Victoria Road.

The council has already commissioned a valuation from a local firm which said that the price would be £165,000, but there has been concern that BCBC may ask a higher sum if

approached about selling it to the town council.

The council has now decided to ask the clerk to produce a feasibility study, including the costs of a commercial mortgage, solicitors fees and other costs.

No decision has been made about whether or not to proceed with the purchase - assuming BCBC are willing to sell.

# Town council aim to honour Tom Prydie

**RUGBY star Tom Prydie is to be honoured in his home town of Porthcawl.**

Tom, who is only 18, is the youngest person ever to score a try for Wales. He crossed the line against South Africa two weeks ago.

Coun Chris Smart told Porthcawl Town Council that there had been times in the past when the town had been a bit lax in paying tribute to people who have achieved something remarkable.

"We did, of course, honour our paralympic hero Simon Richardson, and here we have a case where a young man has brought great honour on his parents, school and town."

"He became the youngest ever Welsh international to gain a cap when he played



ABOVE: Tom Prydie.

against Italy and now he is the youngest player to score a try for Wales, after doing so against South Africa in Cardiff."

Coun Smart said that Tom was on the tour of New Zealand with the rest of the Welsh squad

at the moment, and he felt that the town should make a presentation when he comes back.

"We could present him with a council plaque and perhaps ask another local rugby hero, Gareth Edwards, to present it to him."

"We are all very proud of him."

Coun David Newton Williams said that Tom was a great role model for the youth of the town.

Coun Gerald Davies, who admitted that he had a recurring dream that he was drafted into the Welsh team as a hooker as a last-minute replacement, said that Tom's achievements were tremendous and the town should show its appreciation.

The suggestion was approved unanimously.

# Meeting called to set up new Maesteg U3A branch

**A MEETING to set up a branch of the University of the Third Age is taking place in Maesteg on Tuesday, June 29, at 2.30pm in St Michael's Crypt.**

U3A is an organisation that caters for people retired from full-time work. It's all about learning for the sheer fun of finding things out.

The new branch is being guided by members of the well-established U3As in Bridgend and Porthcawl. A steering committee has already been formed.

Spokesman Eryl Thomas explained that the inaugural meeting was open to all and would also be a social event with a cup of tea or coffee.

Admission is free and a warm welcome awaits. "We want to see how much interest there is in this idea. We will be distributing a questionnaire asking people what subjects they want to pursue and the best time for them to attend meetings."

The group hopes to hold a monthly meeting with a speaker for everyone, and will also set up small groups to pursue a

particular subject at the behest of the members. These groups will meet as and when members want.

"This is a unique and exciting self-help educational movement for people who no longer work full-time and offers them the opportunity to pursue learning for sheer enjoyment and for its own sake. It will offer a shared learning experience in a wide range of interest groups," Eryl added.

Anyone wishing to find out more should telephone 01656 732677.

# Appeal from the Boys' Brigade's 2nd Llantwit Major Company

# Volunteers wanted to lead junior section!

**WITH the retirement of three leaders in July, the very successful Boys' Brigade Company in Llantwit Major is in need of new volunteers.**

At present, the anchor section has two leaders for the five and six-year-olds and the company/senior sections for 11-18-year-olds has two regular and two standby helpers.

The junior section for 7-11-year-olds is, however, in need of at least one new leader to work alongside the two helpers.

The juniors meet in the hall at Tabernacle Presbyterian Church, Methodist Lane, Llantwit Major, on a Thursday evening from 6.45pm-7.45pm.

In accordance with the present legislation for working with young people, all leaders will need to be CRB checked; this

will be free, as will training to work with this age group.

While the Boys' Brigade is a Christian organisation, staff do not have to be members of a church to take on this rewarding work in the formative years of boys.

If you are interested, call me on 01446 796374 and learn all about it!

**QUALIFIED** THREE boys recently completed their qualifying Duke of Edinburgh bronze

expedition, with three other boys from Cardiff and three boys completed their silver expedition.

One boy will be taking his gold expedition during August.

Five senior boys are going to London shortly to take part in a competition to follow a trail, find and interpret clues. More news after the event.

ANDY WELLSBURY (Leader)

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Llangeinor Hunt Pony Club junior members were prominent at a recent point-to-point meeting.

**Pictured (LEFT)** proud dad Jonathan Tudor leads daughter Alice into the winners' enclosure after she took the under-13.2 race.

**BELOW:** Competing on the day were: Molly-Anne Rees, Roxy St David Smith, Natalie Harpin and Alice Tudor.







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Gwasanaethau Oedolion  
**Care Attendant #\***  
£6.83 per hour  
18.5 hours per week  
Ref: V/C/PPY643

For further information and an application form contact the Council by visiting [www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk) or telephone Contact OneVale on 01446 700111 between 8am-6pm.

Closing date: 1 July 2010

Subject to # Job Evaluation and \* CRB Disclosure.

[www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

The Vale of Glamorgan Council is an equal opportunities employer.  
Mae Cynghor Bro Morgannwg yn gyflogwr cyfale yfartal.

## Public Notices

## LICENSING ACT 2003

Section 34  
Notice of  
Application to Vary a  
Premises Licence

NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT an application has been made to Bridgend County Borough Council (the Licensing Authority) for a VARIATION TO THE PREMISES LICENCE in respect of the premises shown below.

Details of the application may be inspected between the hours of Monday to Thursday (0830 to 1700 hours and Friday (0830 to 1630 hours) at Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend CF31 4WB or by visiting the authority's website: [www.bridgend.gov.uk](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk).

Any interested party or responsible authority may make representations in respect of the application, which must be submitted, in writing, to the following address before the date shown below: The Licensing Section, Bridgend County Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB.

Name of applicant:  
**IL PANINO LIMITED,**  
of 1-3 Market Street,  
Bridgend, CF31 1LL.

Details of the proposed variation:  
To extend the sale of alcohol, and recorded music, Monday to Saturday 0800 - 2230 hours and Sundays 1800 - 2230 hours, and Bank Holiday Mondays 0800 - 2230 hours; to extend the opening hours from 0800 - 2300 hours Monday to Saturday and Bank Holiday Mondays and Sundays 1800 - 2300 hours.

Date by which representations must be made: (6th July 2010). This notice remains in force from and including the day after the giving of this notice to the licensing authority, namely 8th June, 2010, for 28 consecutive days.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine on summary conviction is £5,000.

Gareth Jones are now in receipt of an offer for the sum of **£85,000** for **25 Forster St, BARRY CF63 2JE**

Anyone wishing to place an offer on the property should contact Gareth Jones, 85 High Street, Barry CF62 7DX - 01446 744812 before exchange of contracts.

Apartment 7, YMCA Building, Woodlands Road, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan CF63 4EF. We act on behalf of the mortgagees in possession and they are in receipt of an offer of £54,950 subject to contract for the above property. Anyone wishing to place a higher offer must do so before legal exchange of contracts by contacting Gareth Jones, 85 High Street, Barry CF62 7DX. Tel 01446 744812.



## Voluntary Action Scheme 2011-2012

Applications are invited from voluntary organisations wishing to undertake projects that promote a 'safer Vale', health and well being, lifelong learning, children and young people's welfare, and economic and environmental improvements within the Council's area.

Projects under this scheme may be of one, two or three years duration commencing 1 April 2011.

Further information and application form can be obtained from:

Vale of Glamorgan Council, Finance Dept. (Accountancy Section), Civic Offices, Holton Rd., Barry, CF63 4RU. Tel: 01446 709250, Fax: 01446 701729, Email: [ADWilliams@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:ADWilliams@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

Closing date for applications is 4.30pm Friday 24th September 2010.

Stian Davies, Director of Finance, ICT & Property  
Civic Offices, Holton Road, BARRY CF63 4RU

[www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

## Wanted

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and scrap metals collected.  
No wheels, no problem.

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07971 648596



**Grace  
Osborne**

Happy 18th  
Birthday, Grace!  
19th June, 2010

All our love, Mum,  
Dad & Megan. xxx  
Enjoy your party!

## Family Notices

WOLDRIDGE  
Dilys

Ken, Margaret and Kevin would like to thank all the family and friends who attended the funeral of Dilys. With many thanks to the doctors and staff of the clinic at Boverton Road for their care, and to the Princess of Wales Hospital and W.A. Brown and staff for all their help at this sad time.  
*She will be sadly missed.*

## Property

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Close to all amenities.  
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## Public Notices

RECRUITMENT OF  
SHADOW BOARD MEMBERS

Are you passionate about the community in the Vale of Glamorgan? Do you want to give something back?

The Vale of Glamorgan Council is asking tenants to consider the options for the future of their homes. One option is to transfer the ownership and management of the Council's 3,549 homes to a new community housing mutual organisation which will be specifically set up for this purpose. The proposed transfer can only go ahead if tenants support it in a confidential ballot planned for early 2011.

Before then we need local people to become Shadow Board Members of the new organisation to help shape the strategic direction, policies and investment priorities of the new organisation. The Shadow Board will be made up of four Vale of Glamorgan Council tenants, four Council nominees and four independent people from the community, who together will be responsible for the overall strategy and direction of the organisation.

We are now seeking the right people with the right skills and expertise to become Independent Shadow Board Members, with the appointments being made by the Tenant and Council Shadow Board Members.

To succeed in this role, you will need to have an interest in social housing in the Vale of Glamorgan and be able to commit time to attend Shadow Board and sub-committee meetings and associated events and activities such as training sessions and 'away days'. You must be willing to give a commitment of time and energy and to work as part of a team within the Shadow Board's agreed vision, values and culture.

If transfer goes ahead, the Shadow Board Members will work closely with officers and tenants to help deliver the best possible housing service for the Vale of Glamorgan and to bring homes up to the Welsh Housing Quality Standard.

We are looking for people with business skills and expertise and/or experience in a governance role in a similar community interest organisation. Board membership is unpaid but reasonable and proper travel costs and out of pocket expenses will be met. Induction training and ongoing support will be available to help new members develop in the role.

If you think you can help us to establish this brand new organisation which would be responsible for delivering an exciting multi-million pound investment programme for the Vale of Glamorgan's council tenants if the transfer goes ahead, then we would like to hear from you.

Vale of Glamorgan Councilors and Council tenants cannot apply as these groups are already represented on the Shadow Board. For an information pack or an informal chat about the role please contact:

Closing date: 1 July 2010, 12 noon.

Tony Jacques, Head of Housing  
01446 709488

Email: [tj Jacques@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:tj Jacques@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

For further information please visit:

[www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

S Reg  
Vauxhall Corsa  
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Tax & MOT.  
46,000 miles.  
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Saab 93  
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Private Reg 2000  
Power roof, full e/pack,  
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03  
Ford Ka 1.3

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Deadline for Motor Cars  
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58 Ford KA  
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Three seater, two seater  
& chair. New, still  
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Electone EL7. Twin  
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Carlsle chocolate colour.  
Never used. Cost £299,  
will sell £100. Buyer  
collect. Tel: 01446  
792588. (24)

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Enduro computerised  
crossrainer. Condition as  
new £90. Tel: 01446  
710271. (24)

MAHOGANY  
FIREPLACE with marble  
surround and hearth £90  
ono. Tel: 01446 795043.  
(24)

SOLID TEAK rectangle  
garden table and four  
carvers with cushions.

[barry-today.co.uk](http://barry-today.co.uk)  
[cowbridge-today.co.uk](http://cowbridge-today.co.uk)  
[llantwit-major-today.co.uk](http://llantwit-major-today.co.uk)  
[porthcawl-today.co.uk](http://porthcawl-today.co.uk)  
[bridgend-today.co.uk](http://bridgend-today.co.uk)

**Glamorgan  
GEM Websites**

News, Sport,  
Letters, Features, What's On,  
Jobs, Motors...



## CCTV AIDS ARRESTS

CCTV, under the umbrella of the Safer Vale Partnership, assisted with eight arrests in the week ending June 13.

It contacted the police on 22 occasions, with three Barry arrests taking place on June 7 – one concerning theft (Holton Road); one for being wanted for assault (Regent Street); and another for theft (Holton Road). Three arrests were made on various drugs offences at Pencoeadre (June 10) while on the same day another arrest was made for public order (Barry's Lombard Street). In addition, an arrest was made concerning possession of an offensive weapon at Park Crescent on June 13.

### THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT, 1990

#### CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG DEDDF CYNLLUNIO (ADEILADAU RHESTREDIG AC ARDALOEDD CADWRAETH) 1990

NOTICE is hereby given that application has been made to the Council for planning permission for the undermentioned developments:

HYSBYSIR trwy hyn i geisiadau gael eu gwneud i'r Cyngor am ganiatâd cynllunio ar gyfer y datblygiadau canlynol:

#### Development in Conservation Areas Datblygiad mewn Ardaloedd Cadwraeth

Application No/ Rhif y cais: Proposal/Cynnig:	2010/00346/FUL Change of use of ground floor A1 retail unit at 64A to D1 Dentist Practice, as an expansion of existing Dentist at 64C (First Floor), plus ramp to front and associated alterations 64A and 64C, Eastgate, Cowbridge
Location/Lleoliad: Conservation Area/ Ardal Gadwraeth	Cowbridge with Llanblethian
Application No/ Rhif y cais: Proposal/Cynnig:	2010/00522/ADV Fascia signs to be placed on the pavilion to request support for the renovation of the pier building Penarth Pavilion, The Esplanade, Penarth
Location/Lleoliad: Conservation Area/ Ardal Gadwraeth	Penarth
Application No/ Rhif y cais: Proposal/Cynnig: Location/Lleoliad: Conservation Area/ Ardal Gadwraeth	2010/00532/FUL Double storey side extension (East side) 58, Millfield Drive, Cowbridge Cowbridge with Llanblethian
Application No/ Rhif y cais: Proposal/Cynnig:	2010/00538/FUL Installation of pvc garage door to existing carport, to match existing adjacent garage door 2, White House, Cold Knap, Barry
Location/Lleoliad: Conservation Area/ Ardal Gadwraeth	Barry (Marine)
Application No/ Rhif y cais: Proposal/Cynnig:	2010/00566/FUL Demolish existing office/stables. Construct one detached dwelling Cottage Farm, Michaelston-Le-Pit
Location/Lleoliad: Conservation Area/ Ardal Gadwraeth	Michaelston-le-Pit

#### Listed Building Consent Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No/Rhif y cais: Proposal/Cynnig:	2010/00563/LBC Install rooflights in existing single storey kitchen at rear of property 13, Marine Parade, Penarth
Location/Lleoliad: Listed Building/Adeilad Rhestredig	Grade II

#### Conservation Area Consent Caniatâd Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No/ Rhif y cais: Proposal/Cynnig: Location/Lleoliad: Conservation Area/ Ardal Gadwraeth	2010/00564/CAC Demolish existing office/stables Cottage Farm, Michaelston-Le-Pit Michaelston-le-Pit
--	--

### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 1995 GORCHYMYN CYNLLUNIO GWLAD A THREF (TREFN DATBLYGIAD CYFFREDINOL) 1995

#### Departure from the Provision of the Development Plan Ceisiadau nad ydynt yn cydymffurfio â Darpariaeth y Cynllun Datblygu

Application No/ Rhif y cais: Proposal/Cynnig:	2010/00566/FUL Demolish existing office/stables. Construct one detached dwelling Cottage Farm, Michaelston-Le-Pit
Location/Lleoliad:	Cottage Farm, Michaelston-Le-Pit

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at [vog.planning-register.co.uk](http://vog.planning-register.co.uk)  
Mae'r holl fanylion (gan gynnwys y cynlluniau) i'w gweld yn swyddfydd Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y Cyngor (gwelwch y cyfeiriad ar waelod y dudalen) yn ystod oriau arferol swyddfa, am gyfnod o 21 o ddiwrnodau. Cewch eu gweld hefyd ar Gofrestr Ceisiadau Ar-lein y cyngor drwy fynd i [vog.planning-register.co.uk](http://vog.planning-register.co.uk).

Dated: 17 June, 2010  
Rob Thomas  
Head of Planning and Transportation  
The Vale of Glamorgan Council,  
Dock Office,  
Barry Docks,  
Barry  
CF63 4RT

Dyddiedig: 17 Mehefin, 2010  
Rob Thomas  
Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant  
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,  
Swyddfa'r Doc,  
Dociau'r Barri,  
Y Barri  
CF63 4RT

### NEWS FROM PENARTH COMPUTER CLUB

## TIME FOR A NEW OPERATING SYSTEM?

SHOULD you convert to Microsoft's Windows 7 Operating System (OS) for your computer?

About a third of the club members are now using it and others are thinking about it. Steve and Howard led a discussion about how the new system was performing.

Microsoft says it has sold more than 100 million licences; that over a quarter of a million devices work with the system and that over a million software applications will run within it.

The software includes eight out of 10 top accounting packages; all 10 top games (in the US) and all 10 top (US) security applications. They admit that some might need an already available upgrade package to run them.

A total of 5,000 applications and 13,000 devices and components carry the 'Compatible with Windows 7' logo. PC ADVISER magazine nominated the OS as Product of the Year 2009.

The feeling is that Microsoft is improving its position. A discussion brought out several points.

Several members were running XP on one machine and Windows 7 on another. Most of these were still happily familiarising themselves with the new OS to discover the additional benefits. Windows 7 is definitely faster.

It was noted that those

who were happy with XP, or indeed Vista, felt no need to upgrade, as what they currently use does everything they need, then they see no point in changing. (Many folk simply hate change anyway).

Windows XP will work quite well for some years yet; even if not fully supported by Microsoft – and there are SOME applications that do not work under the new OS. Some users who bought machines pre-loaded with Vista insisted on 'downgrading' back to XP. That will not happen if the next one has Windows 7 on it.

Diehards will stick with the familiar until forced to change. The cash saving will eventually convert to a cost in time and trouble to keep the old thing running. Like a classic car enthusiast, their effort might result in some satisfaction, but probably nowhere near as much.

To be fair, there are some satisfied guys at Bletchley Park (a lovingly reconstructed Colossus) and the adjoining National Computer Museum with ancient models kept working.

For the rest, most people will be contentedly using the latest OS in a few years' time. It is looking good.

A brief display of how single or multiple windows can be handled on screen was a revelation to some.

For more information, call 029 2070 8439.

HOWARD DESMOND

## Two awards for local historian

MILITARY historian Dr Jonathan Hicks, a regular contributor to The GEM columns, has won the Western Front Association's Les Hughes Memorial Shield.

His illustrated lecture on 'Barry and the Great War' was deemed to be the outstanding presentation of 2009-10 by the WFA committee.

He was also recently presented with the Victorian Military Society's top award for



Jonathan Hicks  
his work on the Anglo-Zulu War of 1879.

The South Wales branch of the WFA meets at Fairwater Conservative Club on the first Friday of each month.

## PACT meetings

CADOC PACT, Palmerston Community Centre, July 7 at 7pm.

COWBRIDGE PACT, The Fire Station, Druids Green on June 28 at 7pm.

WENVOE PACT, Wenvoe Community Hall, June 28 at 7pm.

LLANTWIT MAJOR PACT, Llantwit Major Leisure Centre, June 29 at 7pm.

CORNERSWELL PACT, Cogan Leisure Centre, June 24 at 7pm.

PLYMOUTH PACT, Brockhill Way Community Centre, June 30 at 7pm.

# RECYCLING AND RETAIL PLASTIC BAGS: Vale Council's reply

I REFER to your reader's letter entitled 'recycling and plastic bags' published in the June 10 edition of the Glamorgan GEM.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council is continually considering its future recycling policies to meet its challenging recycling targets, in compliance with our new National Waste Strategy – Towards Zero Waste, which will be launched on June 21.

The Welsh National Assembly Government's proposal to charge for single use retail plastic carrier bags was first consulted on in June of last year, following which we did implement policy changes to account for possible resident resentment in having to pay for single use plastic bags and their potential use in our kerbside sort recycling schemes.

That is why our 'What's in your Bin?' recycling calendar no longer refers to plastic bags, and states that up to three recycled boxes will be issued to householders.

This should eliminate the need to use plastic bags, while still meeting

the service requirement to collect unsorted paper, cans and glass. Although, should plastic bags still appear in the household waste stream, it would be more environmentally friendly to use them as part of our recycling collection than throw them in the black bag for land-filling.

In order for us to comply with the Welsh Assembly Government's aims for making all Welsh-based recycle collections and reprocessing enterprises more viable, we have always used a collection method that meets their sustainable development outcomes with high quality source separation of materials and closed loop recycling.

Whilst we continually review our collection methods to increase our recycling capture and encourage our residents to recycle more, the Welsh Assembly Government has amassed considerable evidence that kerbside-sort over co-mingled single container collections.

In addition to the fact that co-mingled recycling collections are not supported by the Welsh Assembly Government, it would not be prudent

to move to such a system prematurely and ultimately find the arrangements to be less sustainable.

I can, however, advise residents that we will work with continued vigour to consider any service changes that are acceptable to our Government and will result in higher recycling rates in the Vale of Glamorgan.

I agree with your reader that loose recycle from boxes can escape and end up as litter on our streets. To address this we have recently introduced an elasticated netting cover for recycling boxes.

These are available from the Civic and the Alps Offices for £1 each and when tied to the box should eliminate the vast majority, if not all, wind-blown litter from recycling boxes.

In addition, we have been trialling 'blue bags' similar to the green garden waste bags for use with cardboard and plastic recycling. It is possible that these blue bags will also be available at £1 each.

Clifford Parish  
Operational Manager  
Waste Management  
and Cleansing

## Vale to celebrate Armed Forces Day



RAF personnel from St Athan will parade through Barry on June 21.

ARMED Forces Day will be marked in the Vale with flags and a military march-past through Barry on June 21.

Vale Deputy Mayor, Coun John Clifford, and representatives of the council will be joined by members of the RAF at St Athan, the Royal British Legion and representatives of the Merchant Navy Association.

Leader of the Vale Council, Coun Gordon Kemp, said: "We are proud to fly the flag for our armed forces and to honour our past and present servicemen and women who work tire-

lessly and bravely on our behalf.

"This is also an opportunity to remember those who now have to live with injuries sustained in active service and those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for their country; every one of us is forever in their debt.

"We are looking forward to seeing the RAF at St Athan exercising their right to parade in the county, joined by the British Legion and the Merchant Navy Association.

"We hope as many people as possible will show their support for our armed forces and join us in Barry for the event."

As holders of the Freedom of the borough, RAF at MoD St Athan will exercise their right to march through the town.

They will line up in Central Park at 10am, while standard bearers from the Royal British Legion and the Merchant Navy Association will gather on King Square.

The personnel will then march along Holton Road to the Civic Offices forecourt, where the flag raising ceremony will take place and the RAF St Athan Voluntary Band will play.

The parade will line up at the civic offices at 10.10am, with the Armed Forces flag raised at



## YOUNG STAGECOACH ACTORS STEP OUT ON THE WEST END STAGE



**LEFT:** It will be a big night for the Stagecoach group when they perform songs from *Chicago*, *Cabaret* (and other Kander and Ebb shows) on the West End stage.

## Fire authority Chair re-elected

**SOUTH WALES Fire and Rescue Authority has announced that Vale councillor Anthony Ernest, of Penarth, has been re-elected chairman of South Wales Fire and Rescue Authority for the forthcoming year.**

He was re-elected to the position at South Wales Fire and Rescue Authority's AGM on

June 7. Coun Keith Hyde, Cardiff, was re-elected vice chairman.

Also re-elected were Coun R. Greenland (Monmouth) as chairman of South Wales Fire and Rescue Authority Finance, audit & performance management committee and Coun C. Mann (Caerphilly) as vice chairman. Coun R. McKerlich (Cardiff) was elected for the first time as chairman of the human resources and equalities committee.

**STAGECOACH Theatre Arts students from Bridgend and the Vale are gearing up for a special performance in the heart of London's West End.**

On Sunday, June 27, they will perform at Her Majesty's Theatre, currently home of the smash hit musical *The Phantom of the Opera*.

The Stagecoach Performance Troupe consists of 17 students aged 10 to 17 years, who were selected to perform in a special night celebrating musi-

cal theatre.

Principal Helene Reynolds said: "They are thrilled by the opportunity to perform on the West End stage! It promises to be an exceptional night featuring an eclectic mix of musical styles, popular shows, famous songs and original work."

"Our students will delight the audience with a performance that celebrates show-stopping Kander and Ebb, the legendary Broadway duo who revolutionised musical theatre."

## Gibbonsdown and Court's annual fun day presents 'change 4 life' day in June

Gibbonsdown and Court Communities First 'Change 4 Life' Day was a great success on Friday, June 4, with hundreds of people attending the annual event.

Communities First worked with local agencies, including Flying Start, Safer Vale Partnership, Vibe and the Council's Play Development Team among many.

There was a health and wellbeing theme throughout the day – as well as free children's activities, including bouncy castles, climbing wall, soft play and circus workshops.

The information tent hosted organisations



**Judges Yvonne Knowles, Bro Radio's AJ and Steve Powell and road show host Mathew Wilson.**

including Diabetes Wales, Stop Smoking Wales, Bi Polar Cymru, Prostate Screening Trust, Communities First Allotment Group and Breast Cancer

Wales.

Sharon Topazio, Communities First Co-ordinator said: "The 'Change 4 Life' theme played a major part at this year's annual fun day, with lots of information given to residents about healthy

lifestyles". "Bro Radio broadcast live throughout the day and the finale of the afternoon was the Communities First 'Gibby & Court's Got Talent' competition which went down a storm with everyone!"



## St Athan football club presentation evening

**THE St Athan Football Club will be holding a presentation evening on Friday, June 25, at the St Athan community centre.**

Tickets for admission are available from Chris Davies on 07727 080737.

There will be live music from Tall Order, a disco, and raffle prizes.

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## LLANTWIT MAJOR BOWLS CLUB NEWS

# Record win for 'A' team bowlers over Birchgrove



**LEFT:** President Gill Phillips and other members of the St Athan Women's Institute, having tea in the clubhouse.

**LLANTWIT Major Bowls Club 'A' team were hosts to Birchgrove on Saturday and, with the visitors fielding a weakened team, they notched a record score in winning on all four rinks.**

Eric Sparks' rink lost the first two ends but then got in and moved steadily ahead, scoring seven shots on one end – score 40 – 9.

Arthur Harvey's rink only allowed their opponents four ends in their comprehensive win – score 39 – 7..

Mike Adams' rink had an excellent afternoon, forging ahead all the time and including a six and a five – score 37 – 9.

Phil Clarke had more of a battle on his hands, going 7-0 down before they got on the scorecard. However, they stayed in contention and a six on the 14th end gave them a lead which they did not lose – score 23 – 20.

It is worth noting that the team included three young players, R George, N Parry and M Pitman, who all acquitted themselves well and have the ability to make their mark in the side.

**Anniversary sampler**  
AS part of their celebrations of their 50th anniversary, the bowls club has invited several local organisations to come along and sample the game of bowls.

On Wednesday, nine ladies from Llanmaes Women's Institute had their taster on a glorious afternoon which provided the ideal conditions for playing.

While some of the ladies may not regard bowls as a must for the future, a few have definite thoughts of giving the game another try – perhaps the cream tea which followed helped to influence their opinion.

The conditions were very different for St Athan Women's Institute, who came on Thursday evening.

It was chilly with a blustery wind and did nothing to persuade the ladies to remain on the green for an extended stay!

However, another cream tea probably went some way towards recompensing them. A

good time was had by all.

**Bob Whitehead Trophy**  
THE first club competition to be decided this season took place on Sunday.

The Bob Whitehead Trophy, which has not been contested for several years, has been restored by competitions secretary, Alan Gibbard, for this, the 50th anniversary year.

The trophy is for mixed triples and was played in world cup format of two groups of six rinks playing each other, with the two group winners going on to the final.

The weather nearly brought about an early finish, but cleared sufficiently for Val Baelz, Mike Adams and Steve Booker to defeat Jean Voss, Roger Williams and Eric Sparks.

The trophy and replicas were presented to the winners and runners-up by presidents Arthur Harvey and Edna Hardy. ES

## Blacksmiths Arms on top at Four Bells

**THE Summer Darts League is well under way and week three saw the Four Bells at St Athan take on the Blacksmiths from Llanmaes.**

The new format, six singles and three doubles, works well and the Four Bells were confident of a home victory.

The matches began well with Carl Smith (followed by Justin Harford) winning in some style to make it 2-0 to the Bells.

However, the remaining four singles matches all went down to doubles with all players scoring well but unable to finish.

Ken, Rick Overly, Mark Powell and Roy Fenton all had at least six darts to win it, but finally the Blacksmiths showed a bit more class, taking a 4-2 lead.

The three doubles games were equally

close. Carl Smith and Spike Davies narrowly lost out, before Justin Harford and Richard Thomas reduced the deficit to 5-3.

Paul Jackson and Elfyn Roberts played the final game and were unlucky, once again scoring well but the finishing let them down.

A good evening's entertainment was rounded off by Ken Kase winning the scratch card raffle.

There were some impressive darts, with Justin and Carl both scoring 180s in the warm-up, to follow Roy Fenton's 180 in his match last week.

It bodes well for a successful summer season. Once again thanks must go to Roy and Cyndy for their impressive after match spread, and to the Blacksmiths team for playing the game with a bit of banter. MP

# Llandow Kart Club hosts 'most ambitious event'

**ROUND four of Llandow Kart Club's 2010 season was perhaps the most ambitious event yet undertaken, as the usual summer series combined with the Welsh Championships, the Dragon Challenge round and a visit from Southern Blue Challenge, required 61 races over two days.**

In all, 14 classes were in action, with 11 chasing the increasingly prestigious 'C' Plate, and the status of the occasion was underlined by no fewer than 70 visiting drivers being included on the entry, including a number of Super 1 and Formula Kart stars regulars.

A mammoth 30-strong Cadet field was sensibly split for the finals, with defending Welsh champion Tom Harvey the man to beat in the Comer class after winning a heat and the pre-final.

However, with Jordan Gilbertson and Connor Jupp both showing their potential in the earlier races, and local boys Harry Williams and Harrison Thomas also on form, a five-way scrap for the title ensued.

Harvey and Williams both led in the early laps, before a move from Jupp in to Raymonds saw both drivers run wide and allow Williams back into the lead. Given his break, the youngster was not about to blow the biggest win of his short career, and held on to claim the crown, with Jupp second and Thomas third.

Despite being visibly disappointed at the result, however, fourth-placed Harvey showed sportsmanship isn't dead by handing over his 'C' Plate to the new champion in parc ferme.

The Honda class was all about Robbie Gallier, who returned to the Welsh Championship determined to atone for the mechanical failure that robbed him of the 2009 title.

Gallier calmly pulled away at the front, eventually taking a five-second victory to add the Welsh title to the Celtic crown he claimed in December. Behind him, White eventually got the better of Petricca, with Fletcher Trueman taking fourth.

Junior TKM was one of the biggest beneficiaries of the increased entry, and it was Llandow debutants Alex Forward and Ross Darlington who set the pace.

Forward took pole and a new lap record en route to heat one victory over Darlington and Zach Jones, and then proceeded to rewrite the record again in second qualifying.

From there, however, it was Darlington to the fore, claiming each of the remaining three races and, with them, the title



**ABOVE:** A recent race at Llandow (photographed by Glyn Evans).

of Welsh Junior TKM 2-Stroke champion.

With Jones and cousin Zach moving to the 2-Stroke class, Andrew Davies had only novice Ryan Jones as opposition in the 4-Stroke equivalent and had things his own way for most of the weekend. Although Jones was gifted the pre-final when Davies' engine shut down on the rolling lap, the more experienced driver bounced back to claim the final and the Welsh title.

Although the Junior Honda entry boasted only five entries, the racing underlined the typically close nature of Prokart competition.

Each driver laid claim to at least a podium place, with Daniel Jones and Lloyd Sealy taking the heat wins, before the latter began to stamp his authority on proceedings with victory in the pre-final.

Sealy could have expected Jones to provide his usual close opposition in the main event, but was gifted an easy run to the flag when Jones struggled with an intermittent engine problem that eventually saw him retire, just as his fightback was beginning.

The Jones family then learned a salutary lesson in dealing with tough times as brother Chris was also sidelined with engine gremlins, leaving defending champion Jamie Warren and novice Alex Thomas to complete the podium.

Having taken both the Minimax and Junior Max crowns in 2009, Sam Marsh returned in search of a 'double double' in 2010, but found the competition as stiff as ever.

Although he remained unbeaten all weekend in Minimax, and pulled away comfortably in the final to leave Macaulay Austin and Leon Hilleard scrapping over the minor podium places, Marsh found life in Junior Max altogether tougher, with a 25-strong entry one of the biggest of the weekend.

Fraser O'Brien appeared the class of the field as he claimed victory in all four races, but the ever impressive Joshua Collings made sure that O'Brien didn't have life easy by pressuring him throughout. While O'Brien eventually took the Welsh title by a mere second, Marsh's bid for a little bit of history ended with third place, meritorious in its own right after he dropped to eighth at the start.

Dominic Gorrett was

awarded the weekend prize for best presented kart.

Llandow welcomed back a Senior TKM grid for the first time in five years, with a 10-strong entry led by 2009 Super 1 runner-up Randall Lynn and old rival Joe Forsdyke.

The pair shared heat wins before Lynn secured pole for the final with a close pre-final win, but an opening lap move from Forsdyke gave him a lead he was not to lose. Two seconds separated the rivals at the end, with Kevin Westbrook taking third and Sam Grogan, from the back of the grid, fourth.

Simon Evans dominated a Senior Honda class graced by just four karts, with club veteran Paul Saunders coming through to take second from youngsters Ferdinand Ball and Gareth Lewis.

While Evans finally converted a string of podium finishes in Welsh finals into victory, Dan Jones did likewise in Formula Rotax, winning all four races despite a closely-matched 20-driver entry to claim his first Welsh crown after 10 years and three runners-up results.

Although Nathan Lawley and Nigel Davies fell by the wayside health-wise, the action was a fierce as ever in this season's best-supported class at Llandow, with some unexpected names featuring on the final podium.

Having dominated the front of the field through the build-up to the main event, Jones took advantage of the scrapping behind him to open out a four-second cushion, while the visiting Stephen Andrews got the better of the LKC regulars to take second. Liam Revell completed the top three after bouncing back from qualifying in first exclusion.

Richie Raymond also finally achieved the goal of lifting a Welsh Championship title by becoming the first such winner of the Max 177 class and emulating father Jonathan, who won on several occasions in the 1980s.

After winning both heats and the pre-final, Raymond saw off Wayne Stone in the main event, with the runner-up taking advantage of a wild moment for Nigel Hughes to claim second spot. Hughes recovered to complete the podium as the 177 class showed an increase in numbers.

Although not competing for Welsh titles, both

Junior and Formula Blue added to the rich variety of the weekend, with Ryan Edgecumbe and Craig Copeland running out victors.

The weekend ended with the latest outing of the Bambino class as Alex Austin and Morgan Chell, respectively the younger brothers of former Welsh champions Macaulay and Ross – went head-to-head to the delight of the large crowd.

## RESULTS

**CADET COMER** – Harry Williams (Zip); Connor Jupp (Zip); Harrison Thomas (Zip).  
**CADET HONDA** – Robbie Gallier (Project One); Ari White (Project One); Kyle Petricca (Project One).

**JUNIOR HONDA** – Lloyd Sealy (MS); Jamie Warren (Wright); Alex Thomas (Jade).

**JUNIOR TKM 2 STROKE** – Ross Darlington (Tonykart); Liam Jones (Jade); Alex Forward (Storm).

**JUNIOR TKM 4 STROKE** – Andrew Davies (Jade); Ryan Jones (CRG).

**MINIMAX** – Sam Marsh (Kosmic); Macaulay Austin (Maranello); Leon Hilleard (Energy).

**JUNIOR MAX** – Fraser O'Brien (Kosmic); Joshua Collings (CRG); Sam Marsh (Kosmic).

**SENIOR TKM** – Joe Forsdyke (Tal-Ko); Randall Lynn (Alonso); Kevin Westbrook (Alonso).

**SENIOR HONDA** – Simon Evans (7Kart); Paul Saunders (7Kart); Ferdinand Ball (MS).

**FORMULA ROTAX** – Dan Jones (Tonykart); Stephen Andrews (CRG); Liam Revell (Tonykart).

**MAX 177** – Richard Raymond (Tonykart); Wayne Stone (Tonykart); Nigel Hughes (CRG).

**JUNIOR BLUE** – Ryan Edgecumbe; Ashley Goodlife (Zip); Ben Pearson (Kosmos).

**FORMULA BLUE** – Craig Copeland (Mac Minarelli); Robin Brotherwood (Tecno); Jamie Rush (Tecno).

**BAMBINO** – Alex Austin and Morgan Chell.

Best presented kart: Dominic Gorrett (Junior Max).

Best performance by Honda driver: Hugo Holmes (Cadet Honda).

Best novice: Ryan Jones (Junior TKM 4-Stroke).

Kath Descombe Memorial Award – Driver of the Day: Alex Thomas.

**Report: CRAIG LLEWELLYN/HENRY BEAUDETTE**

## Cowbridge's tennis teams set the bar high!

**IN a week that started well, with the ladies first team battling for a fine win over a strengthened David Lloyd team by 4-2, the second team went down to a high-flying Whitchurch team by the same margin.**

For the ladies first team, Alison Kurobassa and Jane James put in their usual polished and effective performance, suitably supported by the consistency of Jenny Lord and Gillian Rideout, and Jane Richards and Janet Booth.

Playing for the seconds were Sue Wilkin and Louise Hailstone,

who had a rare experience of a losing one of their matches and winning the other.

Jayne Wilby, Julie Couzens, Pat Thomas and Sarah Wallace completed the line up.

Team captain Jayne Wilby was undaunted by the set back saying: "We have a great spirit in the side and are determined to bounce back with a win in our next match."

Cowbridge men's team rounded off the week as the ladies began it, with a convincing win over Firkbank Dale 6-0 and 12 sets to 0.

Allan Duggan, Colin Rees, Ian Duggan, Warren Davies, Simon Lake and skipper Paul Arnold all performed well for the team.

## NEWS FROM COWBRIDGE SQUASH CLUB

## Competition is keen in finals

**THE squash season has ended for Cowbridge this year, and all that is left are the club championship finals and presentation night.**

The two men's finals will be held in the squash club on Saturday June 19.

The singles, between Jon Bisson and Nick Guard, will be at 5.30pm, followed by the doubles, featuring Nick Guard and

Julian Jenkins against Richard Ford and Simon Payne.

This will be followed by the presentation of junior and senior medals in the rugby club at 7.30pm.

All members current and past are welcome to attend the function, which will continue in the rugby club until 10pm.

For more information, contact Clive Prigg on 01446 773729.



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## Home is where the wins are for ladies

**THIS week, Llantwit Major ladies had two home matches, as we welcomed Porthcawl Prince of Wales BC on Tuesday for the Cowbridge Challenge Shield.**

In a fairly even match, we won on two rinks and lost on one to gain eight points from 10, with an overall score of 53-39.

The rinks were Kay Johns, Margaret Horgan, Peggy Pike and Pat Cook (18-15). Edna Hardie, Barbara Lewis, Jean Voss and Carol Willmot; (20-7); Liz Crouch, Ann Mutlow, May

Davies and Eryl Nicholls (15-17).

On Thursday, we welcomed Barry Central BC for a league match which we won on all rinks, taking the full 10 points.

This was due mainly to Marian Lewis, who on the last end changed a one shot down to a five shot up, giving her rink a win.

The other two rinks won well, those were Edna Hardie, Ann Mutlow, Eryl Nicholls and May Davies (17-11); Kay Johns, Peggy Pike, Pat Cook and Marian Lewis (17-15); Liz Crouch, Carol Willmot, Jean Voss and Etta Gray (20-11).

KJ



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## Castleland Tae Kwon Do club's success

**CASTLELAND Tae Kwon Do Club, who regularly hold training sessions at Castleland Community Centre, have recently gained several new distinctions.**

Michael Thorington (33), who has been training under the tutorage of Master Leon Shakespeare since the age of 13, has achieved his black belt.

He now teaches alongside Leon.

Michael has found that the tenets of Tae Kwon Do (discipline, respect for others, myself and the sport, perseverance and modesty) have, over the years, given him guid-



The club have gained several distinctions.

ance and direction when facing life's challenges.

He said: "Gaining my black belt was one of the best feelings of my life. The first was the birth of my son in 2005, and I hope he follows in my footsteps."

"I have the greatest respect for Leon and his dedication to the sport." Several of the club's youngsters (aged 9-13) passed their gradings, and have been awarded coloured belts. They were: Rhonnda Gully, Tyler Hawkins Shier, Joshua Barnett, Corie Mitchel, and Arwel Thomas.

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- 03 53 MG TF 1.8 135 Convertible. In starlight silver with black interior, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, CD, electric windows, only 30,845 miles .....£4,495
- 02 02 MG ZS 2.5 180. In anthracite black, with monaco ash interior with red inserts, alloy wheels, a/c, cd, colour coded bumpers, front fog, alarm and immobiliser, only 62,310 miles .....£2,995
- 01 5 Y Mitsubishi Shogun 3.2 Di-D 5-Dr LX LE LXR. In silver with blue velour interior, cd, alloys, air con, electric windows/mirrors, alarm and immobiliser, only 88,471 miles .....£6,495

### FAMILY

- 08 08 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 Breeze 5-dr in star silver met with tabita charcoal interior, alloy wheels, climate control, trip computer, body coloured bumpers, only 10,800 miles .....£9,495
- 07 57 NISSAN QashQai 2.0dCi Tenka 5-dr 4WD. In pearl black metallic, with full graphite leather interior, alloy wheels, climate control, cruise control, cd with bluetooth, heated seats, rear parking sensors, panoramic sunroof, only 37,267 miles .....£15,995
- 07 57 CITROEN C3 1.4 HDi Cool 5-dr hatchback in Arctic silver with Galand black interior, air con, cd, immobiliser, £35 a year road tax, one owner, only 37,845 miles .....£6,995
- 07 07 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v 98 Dynamique 5-dr Hatchback. In mercury silver with carbon sport interior, air con, CD, front fog, alarm, only 15,060 miles .....£7,295
- 06 56 TOYOTA Corolla T2 Colour Collection. In eclipse black with silver fleck interior, a/c, alloys, colour coded side skirts, audio controls on steering wheel, one owner, only 32,415 miles .....£7,995
- 05 55 RENAULT Megane 1.6 16v Dynamique in mel platinum silver with ruche cloth interior, auto lights, a/c, wipers, air con, cd, colour coded bumpers, only 16,368 miles .....£6,995
- 05 05 FORD Mondeo 2.0 TDCI 130 Ghia 5-dr Hatchback. In platinum silver with ebony interior, colour coded bumpers, multi CD, climate control, service history, only 39,010 miles .....£6,495
- 05 05 HONDA Civic 1.7i CDTi in metallic blue with haptic fabric interior, alloy wheels, air con, cd, colour coded bumpers, only 55,130 miles .....£6,495
- 05 05 FORD Mondeo 2.0 TDCI (130bhp) LX 6-speed in starburst silver with majestic interior, quick clear front screen, digital a/c, cruise control, trip computer, only 55,341 miles .....£5,995
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- 04 54 CITROEN C3 stop&start 1.4 5-dr Automatic Hatchback. In silver with blue velour interior, air con, cd, alloy wheels, only 29,920 miles .....£4,495
- 04 04 TOYOTA Avenis 2.0 VVTi T-Spirit Auto 4-dr Saloon. Silver fern, st moritz charcoal leather, map gps nav system, climate, cruise, electric seat adjustment, only 55,065 miles .....£6,495
- 04 04 FORD Focus 1.6 16v Ghia 5-Dr Hatchback. In tonic blue with midnight black interior, air con, quick clear screen, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, body coloured bumpers, only 58,020 miles .....£4,495
- 04 04 FORD Focus 1.6 16v Zetec 5-dr Hatchback. In panther black with Saloman black interior, climate pack which includes air con and quick clear heated front screen, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 83,060 miles .....£4,395
- 03 03 HONDA Civic 1.8i Type S 5-dr in clover green met with half leather sports seats, climate control, alloy wheels, rear spoiler, full Honda service history, only 36,030 miles .....£5,695
- 02 51 TOYOTA Corolla 1.6 VVTi GLS Automatic 5-dr in Atlantis blue metallic with honey interior, alloy wheels, air con, sunroof, cd auto-changer, body coloured bumpers, only 34,790 miles .....£3,495

### SMALL

- 09 09 VAUXHALL 1.6 16v Design (a/c) 5-dr Automatic Hatchback. In black with black interior, cd, alloy wheels, electric mirrors and wipers, auto dipping rear view mirror, only 6,020 miles .....£10,995
- 09 09 VAUXHALL Corsa Club A/C 1.2 16v 5-Dr. In black sapphire, with cable charcoal interior, air con, colour coded bumpers, CD, alarm and immobiliser, auxiliary output, only 18,218 miles .....£8,495
- 09 09 CHEVROLET Aveo LT 1.4 in pearl black with bricket cloth, aircon, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, alarm and immobiliser, only 16,900 miles .....£6,995
- 08 58 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v Design (A/C). 5 door in ice blue with dark interior, air con, MP3 input, colour coded bumpers, front fog lights, only 19,950 miles .....£8,495
- 08 08 FORD KA Studio. In panther black with cascade interior, immobiliser, CD, drivers airbag, central locking, only 32,349 miles .....£4,995
- 07 57 FORD KA Style Climate. In tango red with cascade interior, colour coded bumpers, air con, CD, Quickclear front screen, only 32,136 miles .....£5,295
- 07 57 CITROEN C3 1.4 HDi Cool 5-dr Hatchback. In arctic steel silver with garland interior, air con, colour coded bumpers, remote central locking, alarm and immobiliser, cd, only 38,556 miles .....£6,995
- 07 07 RENAULT Clio Dynamique 1.4 5-dr Hatchback. In silver with black interior, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, fog lights, only 37,550 miles .....£6,995
- 06 56 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme 3-dr Hatchback. In platinum silver with grey interior, alloy wheels, steering wheel mounted audio controls, colour coded bumpers, CD, only 19,860 miles .....£5,995
- 06 55 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style Climate 3-dr. In tonic blue with Kyoto ebony interior, air con, quickclear front screen, cd, trip computer, colour coded bumpers, only 41,820 miles .....£5,295
- 06 06 FORD Ka 1.3 Collection. In panther black with T-ToC interior, cd, body coloured bumpers, immobiliser, only 30,866 miles .....£4,195
- 05 05 PEUGEOT 206 1.1 8v S (A/C) 5-Dr Hatchback. In aluminium silver with grey/black interior, air con, CD, front electric windows, immobiliser, only 38,100 miles .....£4,495
- 05 05 HYUNDAI Getz 1.1 GSi 5-dr. In clean silver with black interior, cd, 5 belt seats, driver and passenger airbags, immobiliser, colour coded bumpers, only 26,280 miles .....£3,995
- 04 04 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 Coupe Cabriolet 2-dr. In platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, air con, cd, alloy wheels, alarm, only 43,895 miles .....£6,495
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- 03 53 MINI Cooper 1.6 Pepper. In pure silver met with Kaleido half leather interior, panoramic sunroof, alloy wheels, cd, body coloured bumpers, only 49,540 miles .....£6,995
- 03 03 MINI Cooper Hatchback 1.6 3-Dr Hatchback. In pure silver with half leather interior, electric windows, interior light package, chrome line exterior, air con, CD, only 36,975 miles .....£6,995
- 03 03 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Expression 5-Dr Hatchback. In capsicum red with grey interior, CD, sunroof, power steering, service history, only 57,970 miles .....£2,995
- 01 51 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 Coupe Cabriolet SE 2-dr. In platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, digital climate control, cd, 16 inch alloy wheels, front fog, only 46,010 miles .....£3,995
- 01 5 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.4S 3-dr. In reflex silver met with Pepe interior, sunroof, body coloured bumpers, cd, immobiliser, full VW service history, only 68,350 miles .....£3,495



07 57 NISSAN QashQai 2.0dCi Tenka 5-dr 4WD. In pearl black metallic, with full graphite leather interior, alloy wheels, climate control, cruise control, cd with bluetooth, heated seats, rear parking sensors, panoramic sunroof, only 37,267 miles.....£15,995



07 07 BMW X3 2.5si SE Automatic in platinum bronze metallic with sand beige leather interior, alloy wheels, climate control, cruise control, cd with bluetooth, heated seats, rear parking sensors, aluminum running boards, cd, front and rear parking sensors, heated seats, only 33,160 miles.....£18,995



05 05 FORD Mondeo 2.0TDCi (130bhp) LX 6-speed in starburst silver with majestic interior, quick clear front screen, digital a/c, cruise control, trip computer, only 55,341 miles.....£5,995



04 04 FORD Focus 1.6 16v Zetec 5-dr Hatchback. In panther black with Saloman black interior, climate pack which includes air con and quick clear heated front screen, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 83,060 miles.....£4,395



09 09 CHEVROLET Aveo LT 1.4 in pearl black with bricket cloth, aircon, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, alarm and immobiliser, cd, only 16,900 miles.....£6,995



07 57 CITROEN C3 1.4 HDi Cool 5-dr hatchback in Arctic silver with Galand black interior, air con, cd, immobiliser, £35 a year road tax, one owner, only 37,845 miles.....£6,995



04 04 TOYOTA Avenis 2.0 VVTi T-Spirit Auto 4-dr Saloon. Silver fern, st moritz charcoal leather, map gps nav system, climate, cruise, electric seat adjustment, only 55,065 miles.....£6,495



06 56 TOYOTA Corolla T2 Colour Collection, 1.4 5-dr Hatchback. In eclipse black with silver fleck interior, a/c, alloys, colour coded side skirts, audio controls on steering wheel, one owner, only 32,415 miles.....£7,995

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Buy 1 Buy 2 Buy 4

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£63.25 £110 £210

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155/70R13 Avon ZVS **£48.25**

145/70R13 Avon ZVS **£62.25**

175/70R14 Avon ZVS **£54.25**

115/40R14 Avon ZVS **£65.25**

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07 07	FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style. Silver, 24k	£5,750
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03 53	HYUNDAI Getz 1.3 3-dr. Red, 65k	£2,475
05 05	CHEVROLET Matiz 1.0 5-dr SE Silver, 50k	£2,950
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05 05	SAAB 4-dr 2.2 TDi Auto. Met gold, 60k	£5,975
04 04	PEUGEOT 407 Turbo CDI. Met blue, 60k	£4,975
04 04	RENAULT Megane 1.9 TDi 3-dr. Blue, 60k	£4,975
05 05	FORD Focus 1.6 16v 5-Dr Edge. Met Silver, 42k	£4,975
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04 54	FORD Focus Ghia Saloon 1.6 4-dr. Silver, 55k	£3,975
01 Y	VOLKSWAGEN Beetle 2.0. Yellow, 80k	£3,975
03 53	HONDA Civic 1.6i V-Tec S Met Blue, 55k	£3,950
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57 Astra 1.9 CDTi 150 Sport Hatch SRI in Blue.....£9995	08 Astra 1.6 Elite 5dr in Star Silver, 31,000 miles.....£8995	08 Astra 1.4 Club 5dr in Silver Lightning, 22,000 miles.....£7995	03 Ford Fiesta 1.25 Finesse 5dr, in Blue, 37,000 miles.....£3795	
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# GEM sport

## TEAMS TRAVEL TO STOKE-ON-TRENT Local pupils take on basketball challenge



ABOVE: The Bridgend Blues: Josh Jones (Llangewydd Primary); Dewi Price (Brynamenyn); Jack Kane (Mynydd Cynffig); Morgan Carter (Porthcawl); Sam Wilcox (Brynamenyn) and Sophie Evans (Mynydd Cynffig). Their coaches were Martin Griffiths and Richard White.

A GROUP of teachers in Bridgend county borough primary schools have been spreading the basketball gospel for some years now – and the district squad recently travelled to Stoke-on-Trent for the highlight of their year, a competition against other regions.

At primary school level, the teams are mixed, with at least two girls in every team of six.

Martin Griffiths, the head of Tynnyrheol Primary School, who is one of the county borough coaches, told The GEM: "The boys and the girls both find that basketball helps them with other sports they play.

"It helps with mobility, team work, and ball handling skills, so

rugby and netball players can add to their game, as well as enjoying basketball in its own right."

With a strong squad of 12, made up of pupils from eight primary schools, and with four from Mynydd Cynffig Primary, the Bridgend county squad decided to enter two teams into the competition, the Bridgend Blues and the Bridgend Warriors, each with two coaches.



ABOVE: The Bridgend Warriors: Harry Courtney (Corneli); Daniel Jakeway (Llangrallio); Daniel Pearcey (Mynydd Cynffig); Morgan Chard (Tynnyrheol); Sophie Morgan (Ognorvale) and Annie James (Mynydd Cynffig). They were coached by the Bridgend county director of coaching, Steve Lambert, and Karen Morgan.

## POINT-TO-POINT SEASON'S WINNERS ARE ANNOUNCED

THIS year's south Wales area point-to-point trophy winners are as follows:

**JOCKEYS:** Welsh Champion – Men (DR Thomas Perpetual Trophy) South Wales (Mon) & West Wales Areas – Winner – John Mathias.

Welsh Champion – Ladies (B Thomas Perpetual Trophy) South Wales (Mon) & West Wales Areas – Winner – Isabel Tompsett.

Sport of Kings Perpetual Trophy – Most wins at any meeting throughout whole country – Winner – John Mathias.

Bill Jones Memorial Trophy Gentleman resident in South Wales (Mon) area with most wins within that area – Joint winners – Tom David, Rhys Hughes.

Novice Rider South Wales (Mon) & West Wales Areas – Winner – Nathan Deakin.

Novice Rider South Wales (Mon) Area – Winner – John Norman.

**HORSES:** Champion Horse: (Spillers Perpetual Trophy) Most wins in South Wales (Mon) & West Wales Areas – Winner – Grey Kid (Mrs I

### ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

Shervington, Pembro.

Champion Mare: (Elfynd David Memorial Trophy) South Wales (Mon) & West Wales Areas – Winner – *Makena* (Mr DL Evans, Pembro).

Maiden Horse: (George L Williams Memorial Trophy) South Wales (Mon) Area – Winner – *On Oath* (Mrs C E Goldsworthy, Tredegar).

Champion Older Horse: (Lord Charles Trophy) 12 years or over – South Wales (Mon) & West Wales Areas – Winner – *Grey Kid* (Mrs I Shervington, Pembro).

Champion Open/Hunter Chase Horse: (Peter Curry Memorial Trophy) Most wins in Open Point to Points/Hunter Chases. South Wales (Mon) Area horses – Winner – *Mingsgill Mans* (Mr JW Tudor, Llangeinor).

● This result can only be confirmed once the season has closed as it incorporates races outside of Wales and there are other horses who could be in contention if they won at these remaining meetings.

## St Clare's young cricketers move on to regional final

ST CLARE'S School under-11 kwik cricket team are celebrating after going through to the mid-Glamorgan final of the Asda kwik cricket competition.

The team won each of their matches in the round robin competition against schools from Pencoed, Bridgend and Porthcawl. The exception was Cwmfelin Primary, who they lost to by a single run.

Both Cwmfelin and St Clare's now progress to the mid-Glamorgan final in Miskin Manor on June 23.

The Asda Kwik Cricket competition is a national tournament which involves more than 12,000 schools across the UK. The games consist of teams of eight players, batting in pairs for eight overs per team.

The St Clare's team was Tom Cogbill, Chris Matthews, Charlie Jones, Tom Allen, Joe Richards, Ben Collins, Harry Provstgaard and Sam Mahoney. Both Chris Matthews and Thomas Cogbill were selected for the Welsh under-11 cricket squad recently, and played against Hereford County in Pontypridd.

Sam Mahoney is a talented rugby player as well as cricketer. He was recently selected to play for the West Wales B team at Eugene Cross Park and has captained the Bridgend School's under-11 district team this season.



The St Clare's under-11s cricket team.

St Clare's School entered the most teams into the local Kwik Cricket competition with three mixed teams and a boys team.

Catherine Barnard, head of St Clare's School, congratulated all the participants: "We were delighted one of our teams did so well and look forward to seeing how they get on in the final."

## B Attack are back on top



Hangover Heroes dropped points.

B Attack were the only winners in the Bridgend 6-a-side football league Premier Division – but what a win it was.

Mark Turner starred as the leaders trounced The Pie Boys 6-1. The other games were all drawn, but Persil Boys' 1-1 draw with Hangover Heroes gives them hope of beating the drop.

Bulldogs sealed promotion after they sneaked home 4-3 against Inter Wildmill despite the best efforts of Ray Lakin, meaning that Dead End Jobs, Football Gods will have to wait until next season to break into the top flight, despite beating Laleston Lions 2-0.

Anyone who wants to join the 6-a-side football leagues in Bridgend can ring 0845 230 2340 or visit [www.leisureleagues.net](http://www.leisureleagues.net)

### Premier Division

Team Name	Played	Goal Diff	Points
B Attack	12	32	19
Croissants	12	35	18
Day Sleepers	12	10	17
Hangover Heroes	12	-8	11
Dunraven	12	-3	10
The Pie Boys	12	-24	8
Racing Inter	12	-19	7
Persil Boys FC	12	-23	6

### Division 1

Team Name	Played	Goal Diff	Points
Athletic Brackla	12	33	21
Bulldogs	12	10	19
Dead End Jobs	12	7	13
But Football Gods	12	0	13
Hardly Athletic	12	7	12
Young Exiles	12	-15	7
Team Xtreme	12	-9	6
Laleston Lions	12	-33	5
Inter Wildmill	12	-33	5

## Local pub's golf society has a great day out

THE Blacksmith's Arms Golf Society recently held its second golf day at the well-manicured Peterstone Lakes Golf Club.

Landlord of the reinvigorated Llanmaes pub, Mike Poole, says the society has proven to be a success and Peterstone was well attended.

In glorious weather conditions, winner of the day was Southerndown member Steve Jenkins, with a stableford score

of 39 points. Steve also picked up the prize for nearest the pin, while the longest drive award went to Mike Jones.

The next event will be at St Mary's golf club on July 16 competing in the 'Blacksmith's closed', an annual event since 1986 where the winner is presented with the famous 'old loo seat' trophy.

New members are always welcome, and anyone interested should call in to see Mike at the Blacksmith's Arms, Llanmaes.

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